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Vol. 4 } Kanpur, December, 1956 { No. 5

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Upon the suggestion of the Prime Minister of Indonesia, a meeting of the Prime Ministers of the Colombo countries was held in New Delhi on the 12th, 13th and 14th November, 1956. It was attended by the Prime Ministers of Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia and India. The Prime Minister of Pakistan was unable to participate.

In the picture the four Prime Ministers seen are U Ba Swe (Burma) ; Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru (India) ; Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo (Indonesia) ; and Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike (Ceylon). Also seen in the photo are : Shri G. B. Pant (extreme left) and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Second from left).

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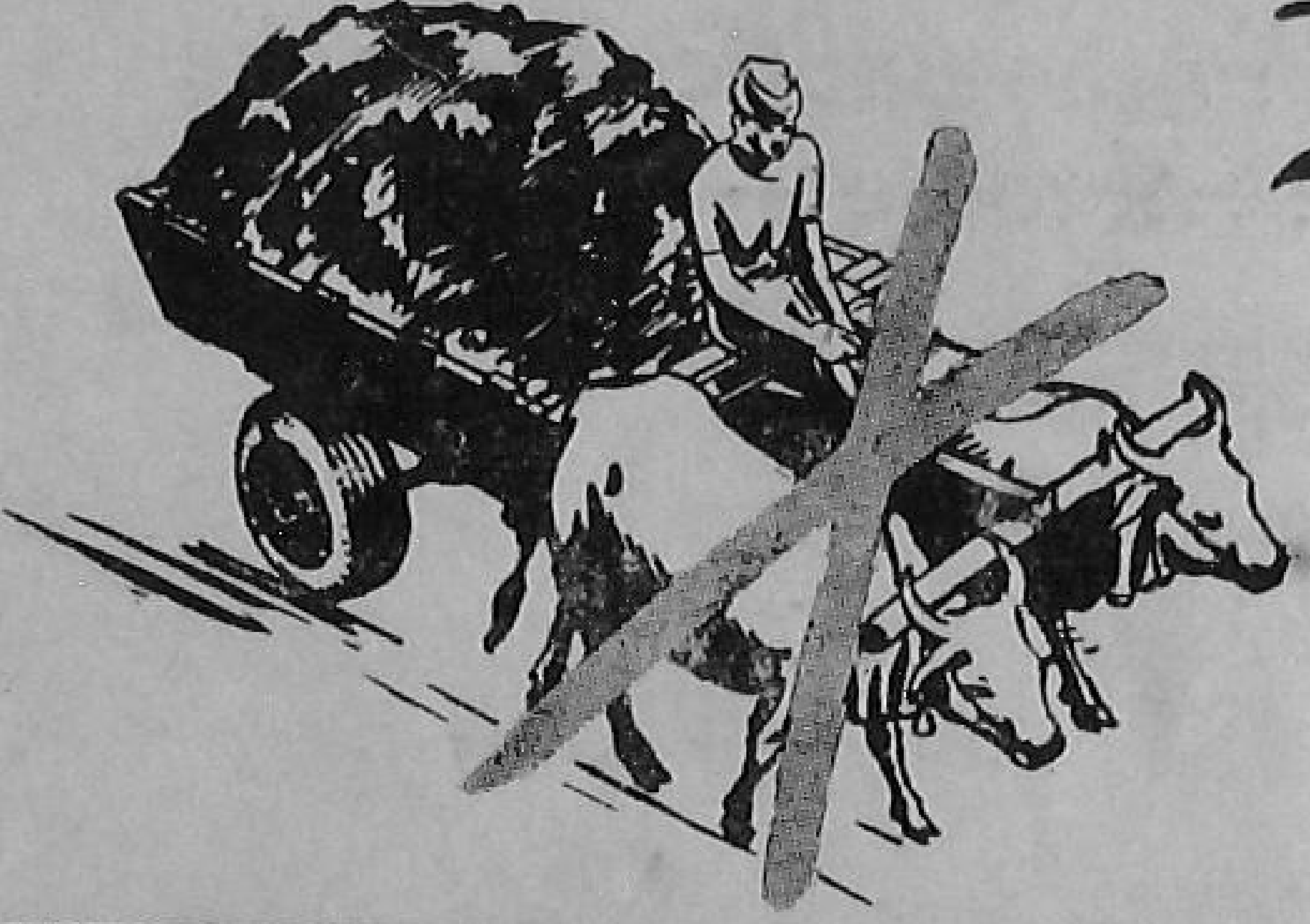

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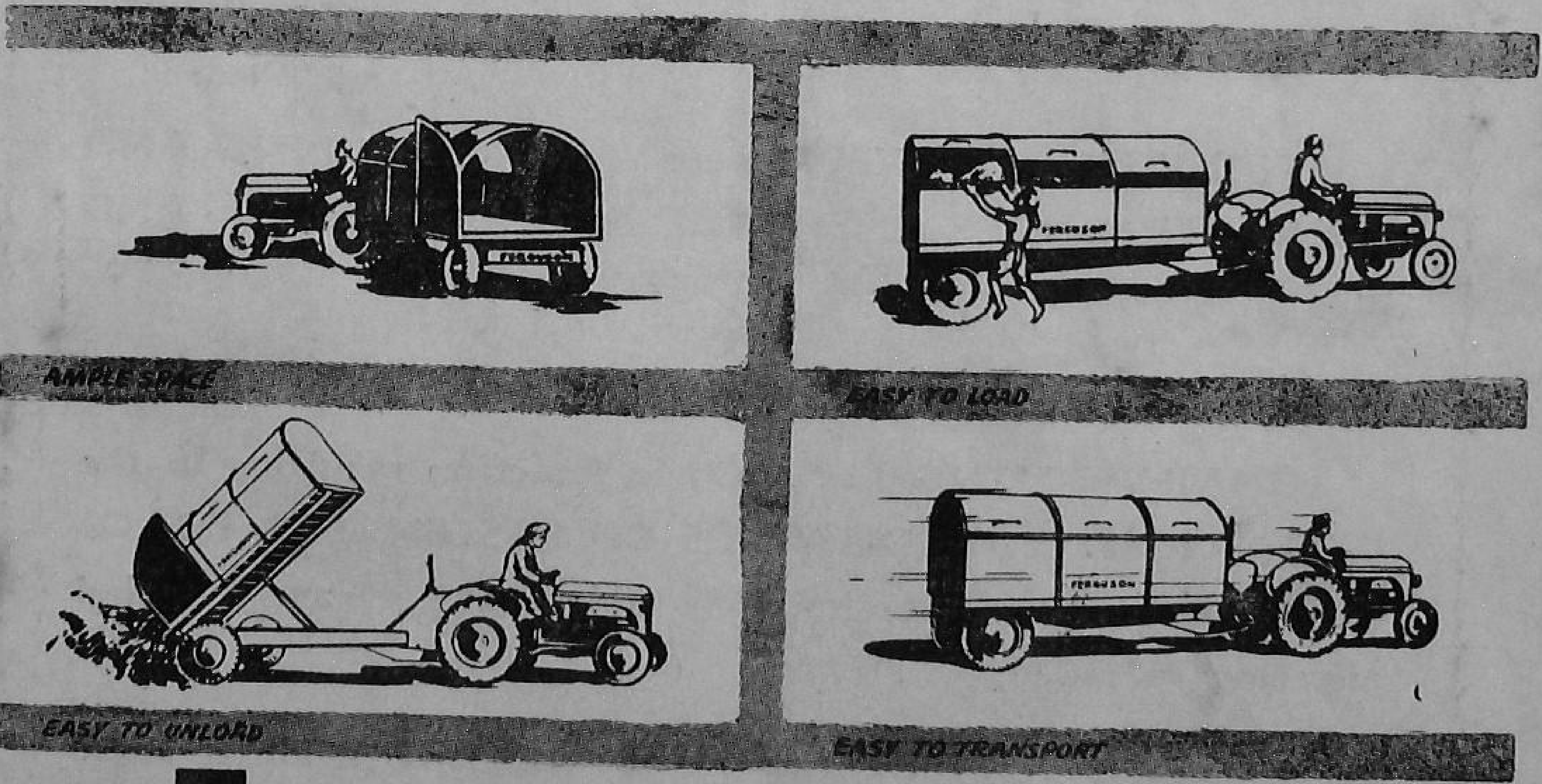

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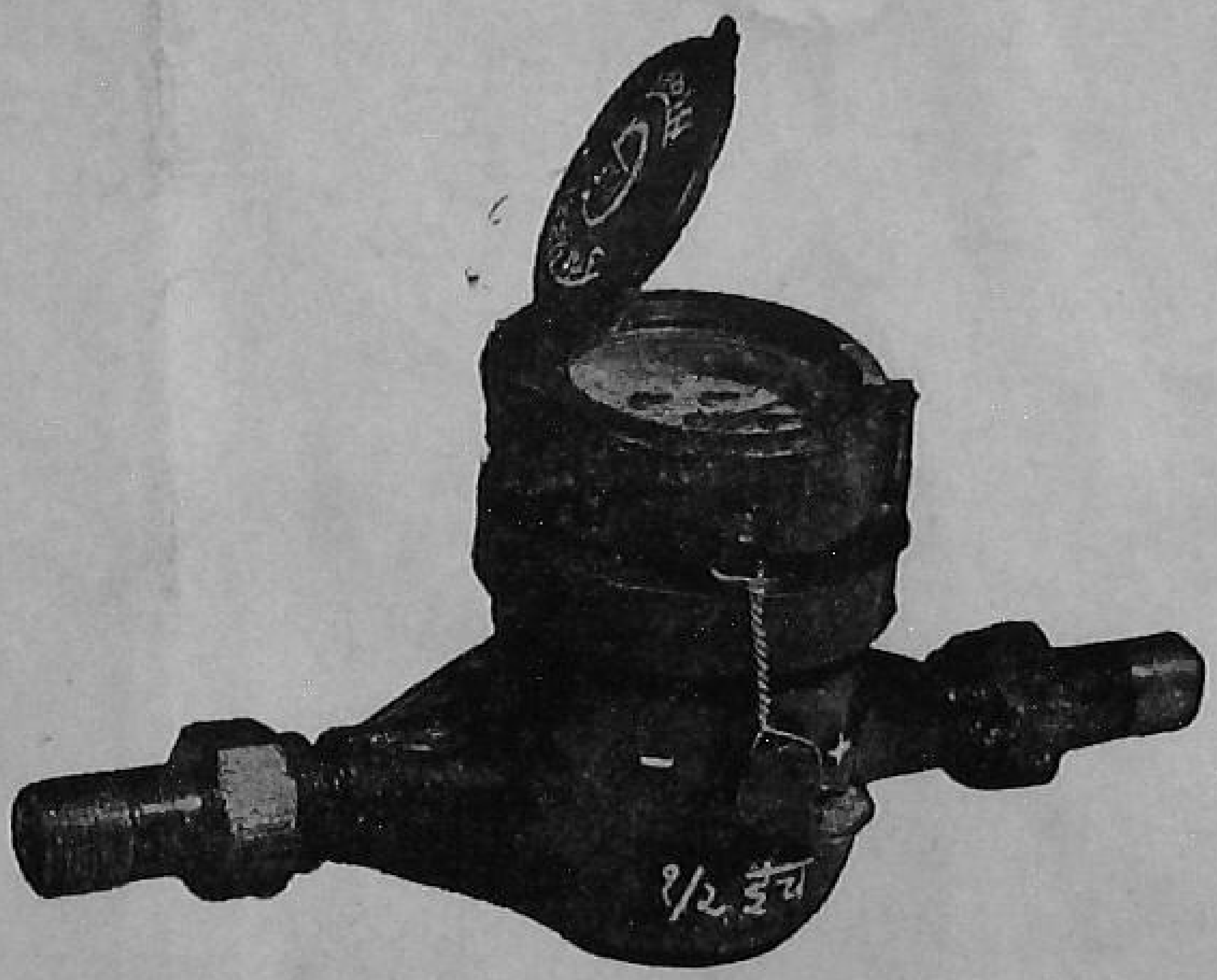

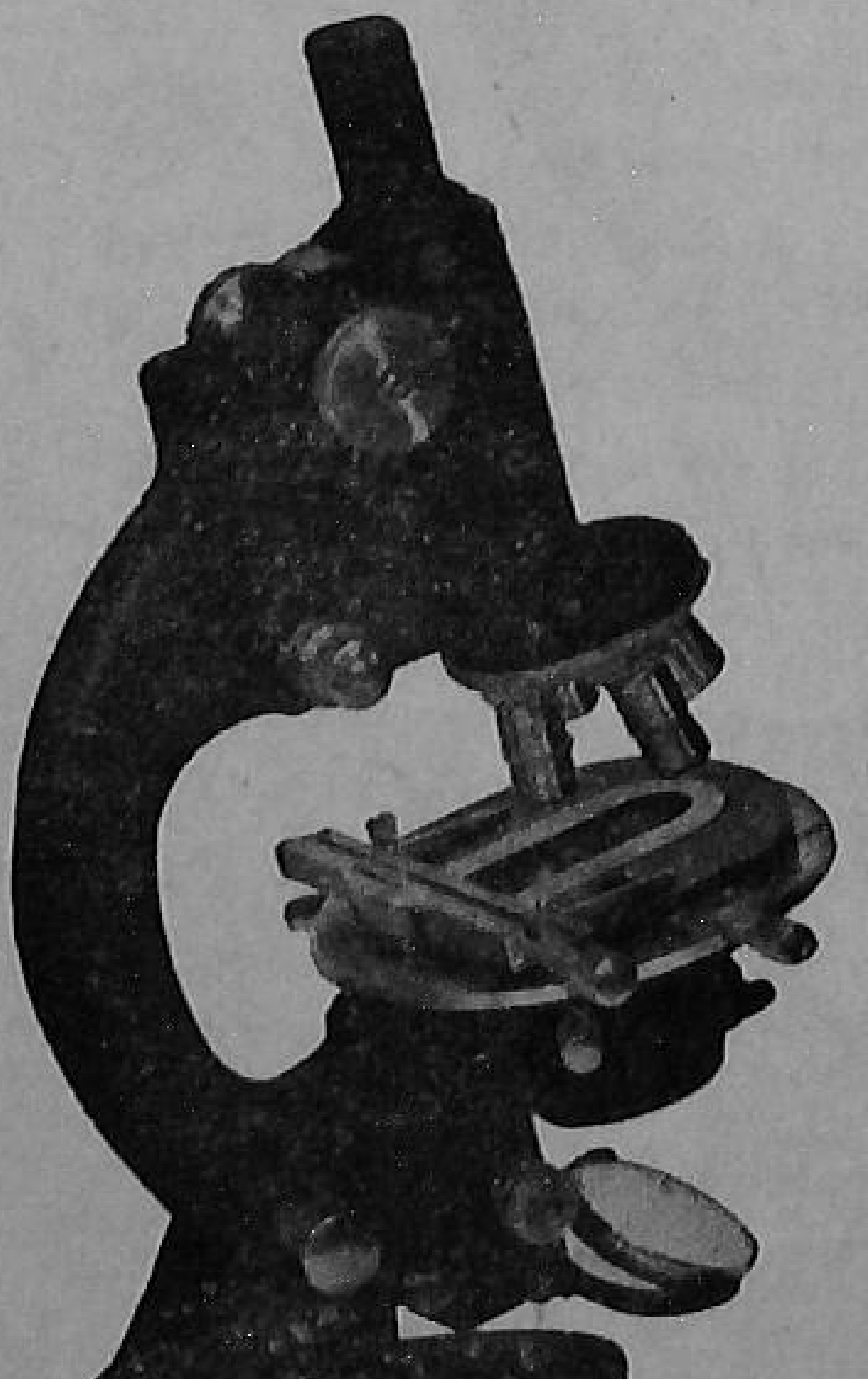

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1	6	9	5	6	34	9	6	59	13	6	84
1	9	11	5	9	36	9	9	61	13	9	86
2	0	12	6	0	37	10	0	62	14	0	87
2	3	14	6	3	39	10	3	64	14	3	89
2	6	16	6	6	41	10	6	66	14	6	91
2	9	17	6	9	42	10	9	67	14	9	92
3	0	19	7	0	44	11	0	69	15	0	94
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EDITORIAL

FOR DEMOCRATIC STABILITY

In an address to the Delhi Municipal Committee's Public Forum on November 16, Bombay's famous civic leader, Mr. S. K. Patil, M. P., advised his countrymen to lay firm foundation of local self-government if they want a good and stable government. Unless local self-government in the country was made strong and more solid, the edifice of Parliament cannot be sustained for long, he said.

The need for ensuring stability is obvious. That it cannot be ensured without injecting vitality into the grass-roots of democracy, is clear from even a cursory review of developments in the various countries of the resurgent Asia and Africa. India has been more fortunate than many other countries in this area in its experiment with Democracy, because of very able leadership. The farsightedness of this leadership is also clear from the gradually and increasing emphasis on the need for strengthening the basis of democracy, namely, in the local self-government institutions in the smallest of the units, in villages and in towns.

For the efficient functioning of democracy it is also essential that the relationship between the various administrative powers — at the Centre, in the States, and in the towns and villages — should be well defined. Way for this re-definition has been made clear by the reorganisation of the State units this November.

Not only countries that are committed to parliamentry democracy stand in need of stable and efficient local self-government units, even China and Russia, stated to be totalitarian powers, are groping in the same direction. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in the Party's Eighth Congress in September last emphasised the need of strengthening the supervision by the masses of people over the organs of Government and of the need to adjust the powers and functions of the central and local authorities for achieving this.

How efficient is the Government of a country will depend in the long run how stable and efficient are the organs of its Local Government.

Brake on the New Despotism—District Reorganisation—Urban Local Self-Government In U.P.

A reviw of the last three year's working of the Lok Sabha's Committee on Subordinate Legislation shows that most of the Committee's time and attention so far has been taken up in sizing up the problem and settling the preliminary details of its work. This was inevitable. Useful spadework has been done and when the new Lok Sabha meets in 1957, and another Committee on Subordinate Legislation is set up, further and more important work, it is hoped, would be taken in hand.

The importance of Parliamentary vigilance to ensure that the powers of delegated legislation are not abused, it would appear, is not yet fully realised. May be, this is the result of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation approaching their task in a most objective and non-partisan manner. The Committee's few reports presented to the House did not contain anything like what is usually served in the reports of the Estimates or Public Accounts Committees. No wonder that these did not receive as much attention as the subject had warranted.

On comparison with the parallel organisation in the U.K. one is also driven to the conclusion that both the Government and the Lok Sabha could have with advantage bestowed greater attention on the subject, and gone into the matter in greater detail with advantage to the future of democracy and good government in the country.

The three safeguards against the abuse of powers by the rule-making authority existing in the U. K. do not yet exist here. All the regulations which are subject to parliamentary procedure and all other regulations of importance are signed in U. K. by the Minister responsible, only regulations of minor importance being signed on behalf of the Minister. Wherever practicable outside interests which may be affected are consulted informally. In certain cases the Minister has to obtain the approval of the Legislation Committee of the Cabinet for the delegated legislation he wishes to make. This Legislation Committee of the British Cabinet is a very strong one, being presided over by a senior Cabinet Minister, and normally including the Lord Chancellor, the Leaders of the two Houses, the Law Officers and the Chief Whip. It is not known if there is anything similar to these arragements here.

The Lok Sabha's Committee on Subordinate Legislation, however, is modelled on the lines of the Scrutiny Committee of the House of Commons, which has been functioning since 1944, in addition to the Legislation Committee of the Cabinet. The Scrutiny Committee has 11 members, the practice being to appoint a member of the Opposition as Chairman. The Lok Sabha's Committee on Subordinate Legislation has 12 members — it began with 11 — and its present Chairman is a member of the Opposition. Mr. N. C. Chatterji, who fills this role, is a leading lawyer of the country. The Scrutiny Committee, however, meets more frequently than its counterpart here — fortnightly, and in special circumstances, more often.

District Reorganisation

U. P. Government have shown commendable enterprise in getting the State's district organisation studied with a view to introducing the much needed reform. The pattern of Government in every State is the same. The District Magistrate and Collector continues to be the pivot round which the entire district administration revolves. For greater efficiency it is obvious that the District Administration should be put in proper form to deal with the new growing tasks.

The enquiry in the Uttar Pradesh has revealed that the District Magistrate and Collector of Lucknow in one year (1955) had to deal with so many as 20,000 written orders

from 116 different authorities, to say nothing of the standing orders and orders conveyed orally. To discharge his multifarious duties, the Collector has to be conversant with and to consult 124 Manuals, the enquiry reveals. The enormousness of the task and responsibilities of the District Officer are obvious. It is true that gradually around the District Officer have grown a set of functionaries, who take over such of his responsibilities as are delegated by him to them. But there are no hard and fast rules for doing so, nor much guidance for doing it. The process of trial and error has gone on far too long. It is no wonder that the Ford Foundation Consultant on Community Projects, Dr. Carl Taylor, has complained about the Collectors in most cases showing lack of interest in the work of community development—a subject of great importance to the nation.

Interviews, opening of dak and attention to the visiting VIPs, carrying out the errands emanating from these, and similar tasks hardly leave any breathing time to a conscientious officer. The U. P. study is, therefore, timely. The report should be made available to those interested in the study of Public Administration in the country, so that it may be subjected to further necessary scrutiny and be also of use to the other State Governments, facing similar problems.

Stereo-typed reorganisation may not produce as good results as one expects. A White Paper on Reorganisation of District Organisation would be very useful.

Urban Local Self-Government in U. P.

Uttar Pradesh Government have superseded three more of the State's Municipal Boards within a week, bringing the total number of such Boards functioning without elected members to be a record for all times. Their order suspending the President of another Board has been set aside by the High

About seventy distinguished scholars from twenty-two countries, including Buddhist countries of South-East Asia, apart from India (the host country) participated in a four-day Symposium on Buddhism's contribution to Art, Letters and Philosophy held in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, in connection with the 2,500th Budha Jayanti Celebrations, from November 26 to 29. UNESCO co-operated with it.

The Symposium on "Buddhism's contribution to Art, Letters and Philosophy" was inaugurated by Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. Seen in the picture on the left of Shri Nehru is the Rev. Riri Nakayama of Japan.

Listening to the inaugural address in the front row among others are H. H. the Maharaja of Sikkim; His Holiness the Dalai Lama; His Holiness the Panchen Lama; the Hon'ble U Nu, former Prime Minister of Burma.

Court. More suspensions and supersessions were threatened.

The manner in which the State Government have handled the problems of Urban Local Self-Government in the last few years leaves much to be desired. Five of the Municipal Boards were superseded in 1953 on the ground that they were to be raised to the status of Corporations within a year. Though it is now the fourth year of their supersession, the Corporation Bill has not yet been introduced in the Legislature, and the task has now been left over for the new Government which will take office after the 1957 General Elections. No effort whatsoever was made to restore elected local Government in those of the cities which had several years earlier lost their Municipal Boards. In some of the towns a new generation has grown up that has never seen a Municipal election.

The last general elections were held in 112 of the 120 Municipal Boards of the State in October, 1953. The heads of these elected bodies, who prior to this were designated Chairmen, were now called Presidents. They were elected by the entire electorate of the town, instead of by the members of the Board. The possibility of holding bye-elections to fill in the vacancies caused by the passing of the votes of no-confidence against a large number of Presidents, led the Government to re-amend the law.

Other preoccupations prevented the State Government from bestowing the attention on the reform of local self-government that this subject needed, and hence a policy of tinkering and drift. The problem will now have of necessity to await solution after the country's General Elections are over.

Fewer Metropolitan Cities

The States Reorganisation has deprived a number of cities of the metropolitan status. Those affected include Kurnool, Gwalior, Indore, Rajkot, Patiala, Simla, Mercara and Bhuj. Property worth crores will, it is feared, become idle, as the Secretariats pull out of these cities. Millions will be needed to fit out cities like Bhopal and Hyderabad to provide accommodation for the officers and offices that have moved or will more in. Even Bombay has to construct another Secretariat building to find room for offices that are to move in from Bhuj, Rajkot and Nagpur. The strain on national economy caused by the double loss is further increased by the growing scarcity of building materials and the rise in prices of building materials and of building labour.

The loss of the status of capital has been most keenly felt in Nagpur, which has been a Provincial and then a State Capital all these years. The impact on the economy of the city and the psychology of the people of Nagpur has been sharp. Kurnool became a capital city only four years ago when Andhra State was born, and its glory has been brief. Indore, Gwalior and Patiala had their brief spell of the status of capital cities, after having been the seats of Pricely India, which is no more. The former two have been steadily improving their stature as industrial towns.

Government of India are stated to have been anxious to see that as much as may be possible of the status of these cities continues. Some of the offices of the Union Government may be sited in a few of these former State Capitals. Gwalior and Indore, which have been growing as industrial centres of late, have already been compensated to some extent by the conferment of the status of Municipal Corporation on their local bodies.

It has been pointed out that while it would need atleast Rs. 40 crore to shape out Bhopal for its new status, property worth over Rs. 50 crore would become idle in Nagpur. Hyderabad will not be so expensive proposition as Bhopal, but even so it will cost a large sum of money.

The pre-Reorganisation fierce riots in Ahmedabad are stated to have not a little to do with the threatened loss of the Capital-status, promised by the earlier reorganisation scheme to the city.

There are now fewer Metropolitan cities, as there are fewer States in the country.

Lok Sabha's Committee On Subordinate Legislation

Survey of Three Years' Work

With the expansion of activities of Government in the modern world, there has been a considerable increase in Parliamentary legislation, with the result that the Government brings before the Parliament Bills containing only general principles and important details, and the working out of details is left to the Executive, through framing of rules and regulations, thus delegating to Government a considerable amount of law-making power.

In a Welfare State the nature of Government changes and so do the duties of Parliament. The administration pervades every walk and aspect of citizen's life, the scope of legislation becomes very wide and the number of laws that have to be enacted becomes quite large. In such a state of things, it becomes impossible for any body of legislators to deliberate upon, discuss and approve every little rule or regulation, which may be essential for the purpose of administering the various laws. There is also the limitation of time on account of the multifarious duties and obligations that the Parliament has to perform. It can, therefore, in the matter of legislation, lay down only broad aspects of a measure and leave the details to be worked out by the Executive to give effect in the desired manner to the wishes expressed by the legislature in an enactment.

"New Despotism"

This, as the late Sri G. V. Mavlanker, the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha, pointed out in his address to the Lok Sabha's Committee on Subordinate Legislation on December 7, 1954, has necessitated the delegation of parlimentary power of legislation to the Executive within the scope and limits that the legislation may impose. Sri Mavlankar said: "Experience has shown that the work of Government has to be carried on more by the rules made by the Executive than by the few principles which are laid down for the Government by Parliament. The rule-making power thus vested in the Executive by legislation, has given rise to a kind of 'new despotism' as experienced Parliamentarians in the U. K. would say. It is for the purpose of keeping this new despotism under control within due limits and on proper lines that Parliament functions through this Committee (Committee on Subordinate Legislation)."

Indian Parliament's Committee on Subordinate Legislation was constituted on December 1, 1953, with Mr. H. V. Pataskar as Chairman. It was nominated by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the late Sri G. V. Mavlankar. The Committee has 15 members, all drawn from the Lok Sabha.

First Report

The duties of the Committee are broadly laid down in the Rules of Procedure of the House Rule 88 of the Rules of Procedure provides that a Bill involving proposals for the delegation of legislative power shall be accompanied by a memorandum explaining such proposals and drawing attention to their scope and stating whether they are of normal or exceptional character. In their First Report, which covers two sittings held on December 11, 1953 and March 12, 1954. The Committee reported that with the exception of the Transfer of Evacuee Deposits Bill, introduced in the House on March 10, 1954, memorandum explaining proposals for delegation of legislative power had not been introduced in terms of Rule 88 to any other Bill introduced in the House so far. Eleven Bills containing proposals for delegation of legislative power were pending before the House but they were all without the memorandum required under Rule 88. The omission was brought to the notice of the Government and the Law Ministry agreed to comply with the Rules in future.

The Committee were not satisfied with the all too brief memorandum explaining delegation of power which was appended to the Transfer of Evacuee Deposits Bill, and it desired that the memorandum should give full support and effect of the delegation of power to subordinate authorities and also the

points which are to be covered in the rules, the particulars of authorities or persons who were to exercise the delegated power and the manner in which such power would be exercised. The Committee also recommended that the Government should provide memoranda in respect of all Government Bills which were pending before the House and which contained proposals for rule-making powers, and that in future all Bills should invariably contain detailed memoranda on the lines indicated above.

In India, the real Parliamentary control over subordinate legislation being a recent innovation, the procedure with respect to this control had to be evolved. The Committee, therefore, at first considered the question of bringing about uniformity in the provisions of Acts delegating legislative powers. It was noted that the statutes delegating rule-making powers to the Central Government or other authority had given rise to varied practices and forms in this respect. The following four types of provisions existed in the various Acts: (1) The Central Government is empowered to make rules for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of an act, by notification in the official gazette; (2) The Central Government is empowered to make rules by notification in the official Gazette and is required to lay them before the House as soon as may be after their publication in the Gazette; (3) The rules made by the Central Government are subject to such modification as Parliament may make after they are laid on the Table; (4) The rules made under an Act are required to be laid on the Table of the House for a specified, period before the date of their publication.

More Publication Insufficient

The Committee in their First Report noted that the majority of Acts, containing provision for rule making powers, required the Central Government merely to publish these rules in the Official Gazette to bring them into force, and the House could exercise no direct check or scrutiny over them. The Committee considered that once a set of rules was laid on the Table of the House, the House was seized of it, an it had the inherent power to recommend such modifications in those rules as it liked, irrespecetive of the fact whethere the enabling Act stipulated that the rule shall be subject to modifications of the House or not.

Uniformity In Procedure

The need for uniformity in the procedure was all the more in view of various types of provisions made in the Acts leading to certain ambiguities. In the opinion of the Committee, the prevalence of the varied types of provisions in this regard frustrated the very purpose of the constitution of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, whose function, it was to scrutinise whether the powers delegated by Parliament had been properly exercised within the framework of the statute delegating such powers. The Committee, therefore, felt that in order to have proper scrutiny over the delegated legislation, it was imperative that there should be uniformity in the provisions of the Acts authorising the making of rules, regulations, etc. With a view to achieve this, the Committee made the following recommendations: (1) That in future the Acts containing provision for making rules, etc. shall lay down that such rules shall be laid on the Table as soon as possible; (2) That all these Rules shall he laid on the Table for a uniform total period of 30 days before the date of their final publication; (3) That in future the Acts authorising delegation of rule-making power shall contain express provision that rules made thereunder shall be subject to such modifications as the House may like to make.

Delay In Laying on Table

The Committee noted that there had been more than one month's delay in laying the rules made under the Estate Duty Act, section 85 (3) of which had laid down that all rules made under this Act shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament as soon as may be before they are made. The Committee recommended that in future the Minister while laying the relevant rules on the Table explain to the House any delay which might have occurred in complying with the terms of statutes and their normal interpretation.

Second Report

The Second Report of the Committee, which was presented to the Lok Sabha in September, 1954, showed that the Committee in their four sittings held in March and May, 1954, had examined Stautory Orders, numbering 90 in all, laid by Government on the Table of the House during the year 1953. Among other things, the Committee drew special attention to the Rule 6A of the Cinematograph (Censorship) Rules, which provided that "no act or proceedings of the Board shall be called in question on the ground merely of the existence of any vacancy in, or defect in the constitution of the Board," and felt that this was a substantive provision of law pertaining to the jurisdiction of the Courts and should more appropriately be provided in the Act itself, and, further that the wording of the rule was so wide that it might lead to abuse of exercise of power in the constitution of the Board.

The Committee also objected to the alternative methods of appointment of Chairman of Development Councils, as provided in the Development Councils (Procedural) Rules, namely, that they shall be either nominated by the Central Government or elected by members of the Council as the Government may decide. After considering the explanation of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ministry, the Committee were of the opinion that there should be only one system of appointing the Chairman, either that of election or nomination, and that the rule should be modified accordingly.

Ministers' Salaries

The Committee observed from Section 11 of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, that it was very widely worded and full powers had been given to Government to frame rules to carry out the purposes of the Act.

Dealing with the Home Ministry's orders, making amendment in the Ministers (Advance for Motor-Car) Rules, making rule regarding re-imbutsement to Ministers of deductions made by an Air Transport Company on cancellation of the air passage due to official reasons, and making rule regarding grant of Sumptuary Allowances to Minister for Defence Organisation, the Committee observed that the following issues were involved in considering these orders:- (1) Whether such a power, namely, that Government should frame rules for granting allowances or conditions under which such allowances are admissible to the Ministers should be given to the Government and whether it is not desirable that Parliament itself should provide for such matters by an Act; and (2) Whether even if the rule-making power is delegated to the Government, the rule so framed should be placed before the Parliament seeking its approval thereto by a resolution to be brought by the Government within a specified period after the date on which the rules are laid before the Houses of Parliament.

At the outset the Committee made it clear that they had not found any reason to comment adversely on the use of these wide powers by Government. They also made it clear that they had no doubt that Government would continue to be extremely cautious in framing such rules and take every care that principles and propriety are observed meticulously. But in order to avoid uninformed or misinformed criticism and as such matters were essentially money and financial matters, the Committee said, it would be desirable if, in accordance with democratic principles and in larger public interests, such powers were exercised by the House itself. In cases where it was considered necessary by the House to delegate the power to make rules to a subordinate authority in order to save time of Parliament, the Committee recommended that it should be provided that rules made by a subordinate authority should in such cases become operative only after an affirmative vote of the House had been obtained. Such a procedure would be less rigid and less cumbersome than the ordinary process of legislation, and, while retaining the power of Parliament, it would at the same time give larger powers to the subordinate authority to make rules and would take less time in seeking the approval of the House, the Committee said.

Enormous Delay

The Committee noted that in the pending

Bills the relevant provisions delegating legislative powers to the Executive had not been framed on the lines recommended in the Committee's First Report. One disquieting feature observed by the Committee in regard to issue of the Staututory Orders by Government was the enormous delay in most cases in placing them on the Table of the House. It was surprising to note that it should require so much time — which in some cases had been over a year — for Government to place these orders on the Table, the Second Report said, and added that it should not ordinarily be necessary for Government to take more than seven days after the publication of these rules in the Gazette to lay them on the Table.

With effect from December 22,1954, Mr. H. V. Pataskar resigned the chairmanship of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, and he was succeeded by Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.

Third Report

The Third Report of the Committee, presented to the Lok Sabha in May, 1955, stated that subsequent to the presentation of the Second Report the Committee had held seven sittings to examine, among other things, 'orders' totalling 131 in number laid during the period January, 1954 to March, 1955, and the 'orders' which were pending final disposal at the time of the presentation of the Second Report.

Taxation Through Rules

In regard to Estate Duty (Controlled Companies) Rules, 1953, made under the Estate Duty Act, the Committee, after examining Shri A. K. Roy, Senior Member of the Central Board of Revenue, felt that the rules made provisions of a substantive character, were calculated to impose taxation and were beyond the scope of the delegated power. The Committee referred to Article 265 of the Constitution which lays down that no tax shall be levied or collected except by authority of law and pointed out that if any taxation were sought to be imposed it should be done in the Act itself and not by rules.

Complicated Language

The Committee also felt that the language used in the rules was complicated and difficult for the general public to understand. It was explained to them that it was bacause the language was copied verbatim from the U. K. Act. The Committee were of the view that in such cases the criterion should be whether the public in this country would be able to understand the language couched in such complexity. They were further of the opinion that attempts should be made by Government to keep as far as possible the language in the rules simple so that it could be followed without much difficulty.

In regard to two orders issued by the Home Ministry making amendments to certain rules relating to Ministers under the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, (one relating to sumptuary allowance to minister for Information and Broadcasting, and another making amendments in rules relating to the travelling allowances of Ministers), the Committee drew attention to their recommendation on the subject made in the Second Report.

Amended Procedure of Laying on Table

The Committee noted that the Government were finding it difficult in all cases to comply with the recommendation made in the First Report, namely, that all rules etc. should be laid on the Table, that the rules should be laid for 30 days before the final publication, and that they should be subject to the modifications by the House. They appreciated that cases might arise when the rules may have to be implemented immediately on their being made public and the provision regarding their being laid on the table for 30 days befor the final publication might hamper the operation of such rules. After reconsidering the whole matter, the Committee modified the recommendations made in the First Report, and made the following recommendations to replace them: (1) That in future the Acts containing provisions for making rules etc., shall lay down that such rules shall be laid on the Table as soon as possible; (2) That all these rules shall be laid on the Table for a uniform and total period of 30 days before the date of their final publication: Provided that where it is not deemed expedient

to lay any rule on the Table before the date of publication, such rule may be laid as soon as possible after publication. An explanatory note should, however, accompany such rules at the time they are so laid explaining why it was not deemed expedient to lay these rules on the Table of the House before they were published; and (3) that in future the Acts authorising delegation of rule-making power shall contain express provisions that the rules made thereunder shall be subject to such notifications as the House may like to make.

Rules Not Laid Before House

In its Third Report the Committee also noted that upto that time only such rules came within the purview of the examination of the Committee as were laid on the Table of the House. There, were however, a large number of rules etc. which were made under the delegated power of legislation which were not laid on the Table because there was no provision for their laying in the relevent Acts. Whether or not any rule etc. was required to be laid before the House, the Committee felt that it would be desirable for it to scrutinise the whole range of subordinate legislation.

Publicity of Rules

The Committee also felt that it was very essential to give publicity to statutory rules and orders all over India in such a way that the public became aware of them and understood them properly. From a reference made to the Ministry of Law the Committee understood that there was no systematic procedure or machinery to give such publicity. Statutory, rules and orders made by the Law Ministry were generally published in the Gezette of India and copies thereof sent to the State Governments, who according to the importance and intent of applicability of the rules and orders made arrangements, in their discretion to give publicity to them or translate them for the use of the public. The Law Ministry did not have ready information in respect of rules and orders issued by other Ministries.

In order to place this important matter on a systematic basis, the Committee made the following recommendations:—(1) While making each rule and order and before its publication, the Central Government should decide whether it is of concern or importance to the general public. (2) Advance copies of all rules and orders which are of concern or importance to the general public should be sent to the State Governments concerned for arranging wide publicity in their States in the following manner: (a) By publishing the rules and orders in the Gazettes, and (b) by publishing the translations or rules and orders in the recognised languages of the States in the State Gazettes. (3) The publication of such rules and orders should preferably be simultaneous at the Centre and in the States. (4) Press communiques should be issued by the Government to give publicity to the general purport and effect of the rules and orders.

Titles of Rules

In the course of examination of 'orders' the Committee felt that the system of making and publishing of rules and amendments needed some improvement in order that they be referred to conveniently, located easily and understood by public. The Committee noted that not all 'orders' bore short titles; the titles, if they were there, were not conspiuous and the amendments *never* bore any short title. The committee recommended the following steps in this connection :—(1) All rules should be given short titles. (2) All amendments in rules should be given short titles. For example, amendments in the Estate Duty Rules, 1953, should be entitled as "The Estate Duty (First Amendment) Rules, 1954", "The Estate Duty (Second Amendment) Rules, 1954.", and so on. The title should show the serial number of the amendment and the year of making. (3) All titles, besides being given in the body, should be given at the top also.

Reference to Earlier Amendments

The Committee felt that it was very difficult to trace back the amendments made in rules in the past. On finding out an amendment, one could not know when the last amendment was made and when it was published. In order to remove this difficulty

the Committee recommended that whenever any amendment in the rules was made, the S.R.O. numbers of the previous amendments or the original rules should be cited in a footnote. If the number of previous amendments was large, reference in the footnote might be given only to the last amendment.

Explanatory Notes

The Committee also recommended that explanatory notes, which should not form part of rules or amendments, and should be given separately at the end of the rules, should be apended to all rules and amendments in order to explain their general purport. The rules, like Acts, the Committee noted were expressed in technical language, which was not easily understood by the general public. In the U. K. expanatory notes were appended to all such rules and amendments.

Delays Continue

The Committee had recommended in their Second Report that it should not be necessary for the Government ordinarily to take more than seven days after the publication of the rules in the Gazette to lay them on the Table of the House, but they noted in the Third Report, that though there had been some improvement in its direction, still a good number of 'orders' were laid on the Table of the House after considerable delay which was not explained. The Third Report gave a list of 26 such 'orders', the delay ranging from 15 days to 11 months.

Fourth Report

The Committee's Fourth Report was presented to the House in May, 1956, by Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, who has succeeded Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar as Chairman of the Committee, after Mr. Ayyangar's election as the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. Mr. Chatterjee is the first Opposition M. P. to be the Chairman of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

The Report covered three sittings in which among other things, 'orders' totalling 233 in number were considered.

Re-printing of Rules

In this Report the Committee endorsed a proposal of the Law Ministry that it was very necessary to re-print the amended rules with amendments incorporated therein in order that the general public as also the departments of the Government can refer to them more easily and without any inconvenience. It was recommended by the Committee that whenever there were extensive amendments to any rules, the rules should be re-printed. The question of economy should be balanced against the convenience to persons for whose use the rules are made.

Manner of Numbering and Publication

The Committee, having studied the present manner of numbering and publication of statutory rules and orders, noted that these were not published at one place in the Gazette but were scattered over five different sections of the Gazette. There was no uniformity in the manner of numbering such rules and orders. The result was that it was difficult to make quick and easy references to the rules and orders or to locate them in the Gazette. It was felt that it would be better if all statutory rules and orders could be published in one section of the Gazette and could be centrally numbered from year to year, but the Government found difficulties in agreeing to this proposal. In the alternative the Committee were of the opinion that following steps should be taken in this matter:

(1) The Government should ensure that their notifications containing particularly constitutional and statutory rules and orders are published in proper part and section of the Gazette. (2) An index should be published every month which should cover all the notifications published during that period in any part and section of the Gazette. A consolidated index should be issued every year. (3) Notifications regarding constitutional and statutory rules and orders in each part and section of the Gazette should be centrally numbered from year to year with a distinctive prefix. (4) A notification should be referred to by its central number (with prefix) and year of publication in the Gazette or the date of issue of the Gazette containing the notification.

The Fourth Report also noted that there had been considerable delay in laying the 'orders' on the Table of the House. It gave a list of 52 such orders, the delay ranging from 12 days to 11 months.

Review of First Year's Work

On December 7, 1954, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the late Sri G. V. Mavlankar; in an address to the members of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, recalling the Committee's constitution on December 1, 1953, said that it was but proper that they meet to review the work done by them and examine how far their work required further implementing and changes in their approach to the problems and their methods. The Committee's task, he said, was **to advance the efficient functioning of parliamentary democracy and to work for necessary parliamentary supervision and control on the exercise of the rule-making powers given to Government by Parliament through various enactments.** Parliamentary democracy was a young plant in this country and it required very careful handling and nourishment, if it was to grow to its full stature for the benefit of the people.

Limitations of Administration

"The administration", the late Sri Mavlankar said, "functions within the walls of the Secretariat and though it may consist of men of goodwill, intelligence and learning, they cannot be fully alive to the popular reactions as also to the inconveniences and hardships which the people feel in the course of the administration of laws. It is therefore the legislator who has to act as a liaison and mould the administration to the best advantage, convenience and good of the people".

The Committee on the Subordinate Legislation had a vital task to perform, he added. It was the only protector of the people against the "new despotism" getting aggressive, and it had to direct the rule-making power in proper channels.

Learning By Experience

Referring to the duties of the Committee, the late Sri Mavlankar had said that though these were broadly laid down in the Rules of Procedure the latter should not be taken as the final word. They should shape the functions and be guided by experience, making such changes in the Rules of Procedure as might be necessary to achieve the objective of having the best parliamentary democracy.

Custodians of Parliament

He also said that the Committee was not conceived in any sense as an opposition to the Executive Government or to the administration. It was conceived" as a body of persons who are in touch with the people and not being concerned in the actual administration, are capable of taking independent and detached views. They are the collaborators, the co-operators and the friends of the administration and they approach the examination of the rules and regulations in that spirit. The Committee have to examine the questions before them in a non-partisan manner, as they are discharging a duty on behalf of the entire House and not on behalf of a party or section".

He also reminded the members of the Committee that they were in a sense the custodians of the duties of Parliament to watch as to how the power given by Parliament was being exercised in action and to keep the administration within the bounds intended by Parliament.

Honorary and Token-Pay Officers

According to the information given by Mr. B. N. Datar, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, in the Lok Sabha, there were 13 officers working on an honorary basis and 11 officers receiving a token pay of Re. 1 per month on October 31, 1954, under the Central Government. Mr. Datar stated that such appointments were made by the Ministries concerned and no statistics regarding them were maintained in any one Ministry. He said information regarding the names and designations of the officers was not readily available.

According to the statement laid on the table by the Minister, out of the 24 officers, 14 were in the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

An Indictment of Present Procedures

By **Paul H. Appleby,**
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Comptroller and Auditor General

Part I of the Audit Report (Civil) for the Central Government for 1955, which has just been published, is on the whole a sound document, although some transactions made to appear in a bad light could be seen as altogether reasonable if information available to the Ministries had been utilized by the auditors. It constitutes substantially the outside limits to which Parliamentary and public attention should be given to audit findings. Part II should be condensed and designed for the use of Ministries.

The new document continues to cover a too extensive period of time, however. Historical and recent cases should be at least separately treated, and old ones already rectified should be given only summary treatment. Some of the items reported also reflect the inherent limitations of auditing. For example, one of the embezzlements now reported had been conducted over a nine-year span, in spite of auditing.

This is the Second part of Section 3 of Dr. Paul H. Appleby's paper, entitled "An Indictment of Present Procedures." The first part appeared in the previous issue.

—Editor.

The particular case, interestingly enough, occurred in the Audit Department itself. It makes one ask, "who audits Audit?" More importantly, who examines the Audit Department with a scrutiny more significant than mere auditing ?

The appendix to Part I is very constructive and in general sound. It illustrates the not surprising fact that all agencies are more thoughtfully critical of other agencies than they are of their own performances. The outside observer, having no vested interest here, is not so confined.

The function of the Comptroller and Auditor General in India is in large measure an inheritance from colonial rule. The function did not impede British rule ; it upheld that rule and was an integral part of it. It greatly restricted the Indians who served the Government. These restrictions were sought by the Government, in a situation of provincial administration largely concerned with police and taxation function and not engaged in rapid pursuit of Welfare State objectives.

In the first flush of independence, Indian Ministries were disposed to disregard the Comptroller and Auditor General, and abuses become vivid. The situation has been fully corrected, but in the process the old restrictive effect have been restored and strengthened at the very time that new policies were calling for more flexibility and more use of responsible discretion. The net of this uncorrected situation is that **the Comptroller and Auditor General is today a primary cause of a widespread and paralysing unwillingness to decide and to act.**

This repressive and negative influence is in considerable part indirect, impinging on the bureaucracy by way of Parliament because of the exaggerated and unselective attention given by Parliament to the petty exceptions and the inflated pretensions built around the pedestrian function of auditing.

Falling Deeper Into Ruts

About two years ago there were signs of a more progressive approach in the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General. Indeed, not very long ago he soundly recommended the transfer of the accounting function from his jurisdiction to that of the Ministries. But latterly he seems to be falling deeper into some of the conventional ruts, and even digging them deeper. On his own motion, he has extended his review to "all existing undertakings in which the Central or State Governments have substantial financial stakes and such others as may be established hereafter" and "in addition to such

audit as is required to be carried out under Company law." The underscored language in the instructions sent to Ministries shows the extreme to which the assumption of review is extended.

> *This audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General will be generally directed towards a review of the decisions taken by the Board of Directors to ascertain to what extent their powers have been exercised in the best interest of the undertakings to see whether the powers delegated to the Chief Executives have been exercised properly.*

Nothing could be more calculated to stop the Plan in its tracks, to undermine responsible government and to establish government of, by and for auditors. What special competence for appraising objectives and appraising administrative performance in general has the Comptroller and Auditor General? What is Cabinet for, what is the Prime Minister for, what is Parliament for, what are the individual Ministers for, what is a Secretariat for, and what is a bureaucracy for?

Parliament is surely at fault in this. It has a greatly exaggerated notion of the importance of auditing to "Parliamentary responsibility," and so has failed to define the functions of the Comptroller and Auditor general as the Constitution contemplated it would do. Into the vacuum thus left, the auditor has moved.

Beyond legal definition confining his whole function, however, the Comptroller and Auditor General can make his function most useful by confining himself further. Too many of his reports are mere substitutions of hindsight for the kind of judgment possible and necessary and proper at the time of action. Too many merely raise questions that are really questions of differences in judgment.

Central Purchasing

The central purchasing agency is not in theory primarily or largely an agency of review and control. It has chiefly a service function, providing experience in purchasing and the benefits of quantity purchases in standardized items, and maintaining constant relations with suppliers. It is intended to learn and to enforce good purchasing practices, fair dealing and defensible decisions. When it is overloaded, delays in its procedures make it inadvertently a control agency which gives priority to some purchases and postpones others. It is also likely to fall into an enforcement of literal and inflexible requirements which in individual instances defeat, rather than serve, the basic purposes of Central Purchasing. It is not possible for it to have technical competence covering the whole variety of things the purchase of which is important to the conduct of highly varied governmental programmes and enterprises. The more technical and more unusual the type of commodity, the more the using agency must be relied upon to provide technical competence.

The initial establishment of centralized purchasing is always a reform of considerable value. Once established, however, a good purchasing agency will confine its direct purchasing to things of quantity and standardized character, delegating other purchasing responsibility and reserving for itself in these matters only a general supervision of method that insures an absence of favouritism. It has a general responsibility to insist upon purchases at lowest bid cost, but this responsibility should be frequently waived when a Ministry justifies the exception in writing and indicates willingness to assume public responsibility for it.

When a purchasing agency is overloaded because of failure, to delegate sufficiently, it inevitably becomes a control agency far beyond the original intention. This is clearly the case here. It is notably the case in terms of procurement abroad. In one or two instances experts from the programmatic agency have been attached to the foreign purchasing office, with great improvement. The whole situation calls for extensive improvement, however.

Central Construction

The kind of thinking just set forth concerning purchasing applies also to cons-

truction. Construction is not an activity in which it is possible for a single agency to develop all-encompassing technical competence unless it becomes an extremely large, cumbersome, and wasteful organization. Even when large and diversified enough to claim technical competence in all construction fields, it cannot have the intimacy with programmatic values essential to the wisest use of money. It either must at many points, use programme personnel, or delegate much responsibility to the programme agencies. Some multiplicity of construction agencies seems not undesirable. Here I have been told of too frequent instances in which new buildings badly needed and long approved are not under construction. Here the overloading of the construction agency contributes importantly to delay and frustration, and it becomes an additional negative influence.

References to Related Ministries

In addition to the references so often made to Finance and Home Affairs, many matters are constantly referred to other Ministries which may be thought to have, or which may claim, some impinging interest. Very often the interest is theoretical rather than real, the particular matter actually being one of indifference to high officials. But the reference is sent on its usual course downward to subordinate personnel charged to examine everything critically in terms of precedent and possible ill consequences. Sometimes much is made of little, and conferences have to be held to explain matters that actually need no explanation. **Too many references of too many matters are made in this way in harmony with the general concern to get agreement to everything by everybody before anybody risks doing anything.** There should be less hospitality to these references, and less inclination to make them. Occasions when there is some good reason for them will be frequent enough to keep everyone sufficiently informed.

The Planning Commission

India has solved better than any other country known to this writer the problem of national planning. The achievement results largely from the fact that planning here is an important part of administrative policy-making, not something done in the political and administrative vacuum so usually the resort of professional planners. Most of the members of the Planning Commission staff are not professional planners in the usual sense of that phrase, especially at higher levels; they are competent as planners but they are more than planners, as they need to be in order to serve the members of the Commission. **Membership of the Commission is a small edition of the Government itself. As a result of these things, the development of a Plan is the development of the Government's policy and programme.** The Commission as such happily assumes no direct responsibility for specific administrative direction but closely follows and appraises performance and lends a facilitating and supporting hand. This pattern should be carefully maintained. The Commission would get bogged down, and its total performance be less distinguished and effective, if it were to attempt a more direct administrative review and control, or if its structure should become more complicated, or if its personnel were to become more narrowly expert.

Public Management Studies

It is somewhat questionable whether maintenance of its "Public Management Studies" unit is wise, since this unit could push in the wrong direction. Support for management studies and facilitating devices in the Cabinet Secretariat and in various Ministries and attached enterprises would seem to be more appropriate and more in keeping with the general pattern which has been so outstandingly successful. A Planning Commission could not ask for more than to be as intimate and important a part of the policy-making process as it is here, where it plans for and with Cabinet, and provides Cabinet with an uncommon forward perspective.

The Commission should avoid developing too large and complex an organization of its own, attempting to become "expert" in programme fields or in its own general character, and becoming involved in a

type of programme review and control which would offer the danger that it would constitute still another administrative bottleneck. Its administrative role should continue to be a general one with heavy policy content and otherwise for the most part influential in the making of helpful general administrative arrangements. It should, for example, require the development of expenditures data promptly and frequently, and should support arrangements that will make it possible to secure such data. It should continue to make or have to be made, such evaluating studies as may seem to be required, but such studies should be made bv persons experienced in public programme administration and not by those who are only qualified academically.

Expenditure Control

So far as Centre expenditures are concerned, it should be possible to develop a system whereby quarterly reports can be completed within fifteen days after the end of each quarter—not later. The difficult problem of State expenditures will require special treatment and more time, but the time now required is greatly excessive. A variety of changes in present practice will be required in Centre — State expenditures. The recent proposal of the Comptroller and Auditor General that when expenditures are matched the Centre should make all of its expenditures without waiting for matching deserves consideration. However, it might be wiser for the Centre to advance only 40 percent of the cost, rather than its entire 50 percent share. Delays occasioned by the slow sanctioning of money at the beginning of a fiscal year, and uncertainties of concurrent fiscal action at two levels of Government, need to be avoided, and can be, by appropriate legal and sanctioning changes. Such reforms, if not otherwise undertaken, should be stimulated by the Commission.

Programme Agencies Themselves

It is not to be denied that the Ministries and their attached agencies charged with programmatic achievements themselves share most significantly in responsibility for slowing of action through multiple and incompetent reviews of proposals. **Schemes originating in a technical attached agency of anykind are generally considered in the parent Ministry almost as if it were colonial power. The proposals are referred downward to very subordinate assistants operating under the prevailing sense of needing to find reasons for delaying or opposing action.** Once approved, the proposals are sent on to Finance or other Ministries in a form not inviting positive and quick review. The present system has the character of a vicious circle in which exclusive reliance on Finance, and in less degree on Home Affairs, has prevented the programme ministries from developing a competence in the translation of technical schemes into sound and convincing budgetary and expenditure proposals. Indeed, the schemes never are so translated ; the judgement of Finance officials is a substitute for a systematic formulation. Because the necessary capacities of the ministries have not been developed, it is explained that Finance must exercise a programmatic judgement as a concomitant of its financial function, and reliance on the excercise of this function tends to grow instead of diminishing.

When Government Was Not So Big

The whole pattern, like that of Comptroller and Auditor General's function, was established in an early day when close central controls were of the essence of colonial rule and when the whole Central Government was small. It was as if the whole government constituted a single ministry, with the ministries of Finance and Home Affairs serving as intraministerial staff offices. **But today the government of India has no such small dimensions, and should have no such distrust of Indian personnel in the bureaucracy as occasioned the system of that early period.** And the government will grow much more as an incident to its own increasing achievement. Today the Finance and Home Affairs Ministries need to move steadily to higher levels of responsibility where they exercise more general and less specific controls in achieving more co-ordinating character. At the same

time, the programme ministries need to be helped to build internal competence in financial programming and management.

Financial Advisers

The writer is inclind to dislike (unless it is only a step toward something better) the system existing here under which the Finance Ministry attaches one of its own employees to a programme ministry as "financial adviser". The provision is inadequate for the quality of financial programming and administration that is now essential. And it undermines responsibility and fritters it away. In his own post in the state of New York, generally similar to the post of Finance Minister here, the writer would positively refuse to dissipate his own responsibility by attaching members of his staff to the various state ministries. However, the Indian system is so tied to its origins in colonial administration that perhaps not much more reform can be hoped for here in the immediate future than to bring the pattern here up-to-date with current British practice.

Finance and Personnel Staff

It is to be hoped, however, that reform may provide for the larger ministries and for the companies and corporations adequate finance and personnel staffs wholly responsible to the Managing Directors at the one level and to the Minister at the higher level. An adequate office for business management in every ministry and in every attached operating organization would develop and maintain accounts necessary to administrative control, would formulate valid and defensible budget estimates, would project forward expenditures, keep expenditures within the limits of appropriations, give guidance in keeping expenditures up to the level required to reach Plan objectives, supervise personnel planning, recruitment placement and promotion, etc., study and propose procedure and structural changes, etc. These functions would be performed within whatever limits of responsibility are delegated to the Minister or the Managing Director, and would be subject only to general review and control at the next higher level. (The Minister and his staff constitute the next higher level above the Managing Director and his board: the Ministries of Finance and Home Affairs constitute the next higher level in their special functional fields—above the programme Minister.)

Negetive Attention Designed to Effect Economy

A chief evil of the present system is that about the only systematic attention given to expenditures is the negative attention of a review designed to effect economy. Only at year's end is there a hurried calculation of how far short the programmes have fallen and a somewhat feverish effort to get expenditures up to target. Far too little is known about expenditures: too little and too imprecise planning is done to make expenditures actually equate with programme. To remedy this situation requires close, continuing study of expenditures, careful and frequently modified projection of expenditures, and changes in action indicated by those projections. The Ministry of Finance needs to shift more of its attention to better budgeting and away from detailed expenditures control after budgeting. Expenditure control in the proper terms which relate outgo to programme objectives can only be closely and usefully achieved in the programme agencies. It is only when these agencies have had experience in this superior kind of financial management that they will begin to be able to make budget submissions of a proper sort. It is only after the ministries are thus doing an improved job of budgeting that the Ministry of Finance can produce the kind of budget appropriate to its responiblity. In the next few, transitional years, a degree of relaxation will have to obtain if suitable advances are to be achieved.

Industrial and Commercial Enterprises

In spite of a vague inclination to realize that the urgency and character of the industrial enterprises require changes in procedures, many of the criticisms stated in precedings pages still apply to the way these oparations are conducted.

Ministers have varying capacities to delegate, and do it on the whole at too timid a pace.

There is fruitless debate over the advantages of companies as compared with corporations,

and *vice versa*; they are essentially the same and differ—unimportantly—only in the basis of their legal authorizations.

The "Buy India" requirement often entails costly delay, and sometimes tends to enforce the purchase of inferior equipment when the ultimate product requirement has caused plants to remain idle for long periods.

Because the attempts to apportion use of foreign exchange in lump sums was unsuccessful, reversion has been almost all the way back to the old pattern requiring clearance on each individual transaction. There is a feasible, more advanced, middle ground.

Purchases both domestic and foreign proceed at much too slow a pace because of various restrictions or organizational inadequacies in the government at large.

Time is wasted in arguments over whether managing directors should be found in the private sector or in the civil service, when agreement should be easy on the necessity of getting the ablest men available, wherever they are, and on the general principle that the ablest general administrators and those most attuned to public responsibility now will generally, but not always, be civil servants.

Board of Directors

Similarly, there is an effort to include private persons on boards of directors in the mistaken belief that this is in principle necessary or desirable. Officials representing ministries concerned who are appointed to the boards too often are without real authority to speak for their ministries, thus short-cutting the historical pattern of coordination. The boards should be chiefly co-ordinating mechanisms.

In many instances single officials, already burdened with many other duties, serve on so many boards of directors that they cannot possibly attend to these duties in addition. In some cases membership on even one board is undesirable because of too heavy burdens of other kinds. Sometimes alternates sit for them, and often the alternates are not given power to speak and vote in terms sufficiently authoritative for the purpose.

Members of the various boards are equipped variously in advance of meetings with materials giving background information on problems to be considered at board meetings. Some managing directors see that such information is well prepared and distributed sufficiently in advance of meetings: others do not do this consistently. When it is done, board members do not uniformly study these materials in advance.

Some boards require too many matters to come before them: others delegate better and reserve their functions for more general decisions.

Delegation Varies

In considerable part because of the way their boards and ministries show reluctance to delegate, but in part because of personal lack of willingness to delegate, skill in delegating, and lack of proper structures under the managing directors facilitating subordinate responsibility, the extent to which managing directors delegate varies. Action is slower wherever delegation is not far advanced. The present study has not extended far enough within the companies and corporations to justify particular suggestions about structural and procedural changes within them. The number of enterprises already is so large as to make such a study very time-consuming.

Enlargement and Consolidation

Up to now the tendency seems to have been to establish more separate enterprises than appears wise. Enlargements and consolidations of over-all management should progress rapidly wherever competent general administration is demonstrated. Reports, of course, should continue to be made on individual plants and enterprises as now is done, for example, in the case of the collieries. In the long run, however, it should be kept clearly in mind that governmental and Parliamentary responsibilities will be best served when the total number of enterprises separately managed will be relatively small so that the government can deal principally with consolidated reports, leaving more detailed scrutiny to

those instances in which the consolidated reports seem to indicate the need. Under a theory of "co-herent missions" every opportunity to substitute enlargement and consolidation for the establishment of a new and separate enterprise should be seized. When an enterprise is well conducted and meeting its own programmatic objectives reasonably well, it is a canditdate for enlargement in a related or complementary field.

In general, it is too often forgotten here that nothing happens in action toward the attainment of the objectives or the enterprises except as persons actively engaged in producing their product are freed to act with confidence and expedition. **The higher the level at which there is unwillingness to delegate, the more completely is action retarded at every level below** because at every level below there is heightened uncertainly whether penalties will not be suffered for the exercise of the judgement essential to action. Conversely, a pattern of large delegation at the top encourages delegation at every level below.

The criteria of general success are too little relied upon, questions of small detail too often raised. The Government's primary concerns are general: 'Is the enterprise achieving its primary production objectives at the tempo originally contemplated? Are its costs comparable with other costs of similar products, allowing for important differences in the Indian situation? Is it demonstrating capacity for further and rapid growth?' But the questions explored in the review which delays action are usually small questions. Review and failure to delegate, in other words, are almost wholy negative.

Problem of Remuneration

Some matters of detail undeniably require high-level decisions. But these decisions need much more often to be made in general terms rather than in many, repetitive considerations of similar matters. The problem of remuneration is an outstanding example. **The government must have a policy about remuneration: there must be some capacity to relate remuneration patterns so that they may be generally explained and defended.** Yet the governmental policy concerning remuneration may be flexible, and it may be experimental—especially in the field of the companies and corporations where private patterns are especially influential. When a private company is taken over by the government, and the top salaries previously paid in that company have been substantially higher than that of top civil servants, it is likely to lead only to failure if an effort is made to impose the present, normal governmental pay scales on this enterprise. Not only is it impossible to have an orderly transition to a hierarchial differentiation in keeping with the government scale, it will be impossible to plan and effect the kind of organisational structure desirable for the particular enterprise. The government should welcome various approaches to this problem of pay, looking forward to an opportunity to compare results under various types of arrangements. Pay differentials should be thought of wholly as instruments of effectiveness. There is here now much too much doctrinnaire and conventional thinking about this matter.

This is said without implying any lack of sympathy for the strong equalitarian sentiment here, and without failing to realize that this sentiment must be deferred to. Capitalist patterns of differentiation in financial reward have been in many respects absurd and uncritically accepted. Even though greatly corrected in recent decades, they still are not thoughtfully enough designed to serve their purpose. It is not suggested that they provide a proper standard for India.

The American millionaire who once told the writer that if he had been born at a time when he could have earned only 10 percent of what he was actually earning he would have exerted himself just as much, pointed to the heart of the matter. The pattern of monetary reward should be such as to put persons in a position to exert themselves fully and provide incentive that will cause them so to exert themselves. Consequently, different pay patterns will be effective in different times and places.

But differentials should be enough to meet the two legitimate purposes. The bonus plans partly introduced here in the government printing plants and in the railways afford single, but insufficient, examples of the effective use of incentives in association with intelligent managerial study. And beyond financial incentive, of course, more attention should be given here to the incentive to earn public approbation.

Secretary's Role

The role of the Secretary of the parent ministry is a difficult one in the whole area of companies and corporations. If he delegates poorly, if he is unimaginative and inflexible, the best efforts on the part of everybody else will come to little success. If he is chairman of a particular board, he may make both the board and the managing director useless instruments. Conversely, he may be able, almost alone, to enforce adequate delegation, if his own Minister has similar attitudes and capacities. The Minister of the parent ministry may fight effectively for the delegating pattern which is essential to success: or he may fight hard for it and still lose most of the battles: or he may permit himself and his ministry to be overwhelmed bv the agents of conventionality and complexity in other ministries and in Parliament. The parent Minister, his Secretary and the Managing Director are the crucial trio: they will not get the scope they should have unless they are strong, imaginative, insistent upon results, and skillful in winning support, and then diligent in the practice of delegation.

One aspect of the role of the Secretary involves the question whether he should be chairman of the boards of enetrprises under the aegis of his ministry. This depends in part on the number of such enterprises sponsored by his ministry. He can not be an effective chairman of a large number of boards. It depends, too, on his ability to wear two or more hats—his ability to think and act one way for a corporation and another way for the ministry proper. Here is one of the crucial points where it becomes clear that new scope of discretion for the enterprises is dependent upon new scope for subordinate personnel generally. Two hats are not likely to be worn with grace if they are too extremely unlike.

New Pattern of Delegation

It must be said that the need for a new pattern of delegation and supervision is generally being realized and some substantial progress has been made in some cases. If this advance is sufficiently extended and expedited, the great new emphasis on governmental enterprises may well give the incentive to administrative reform which India much needs.

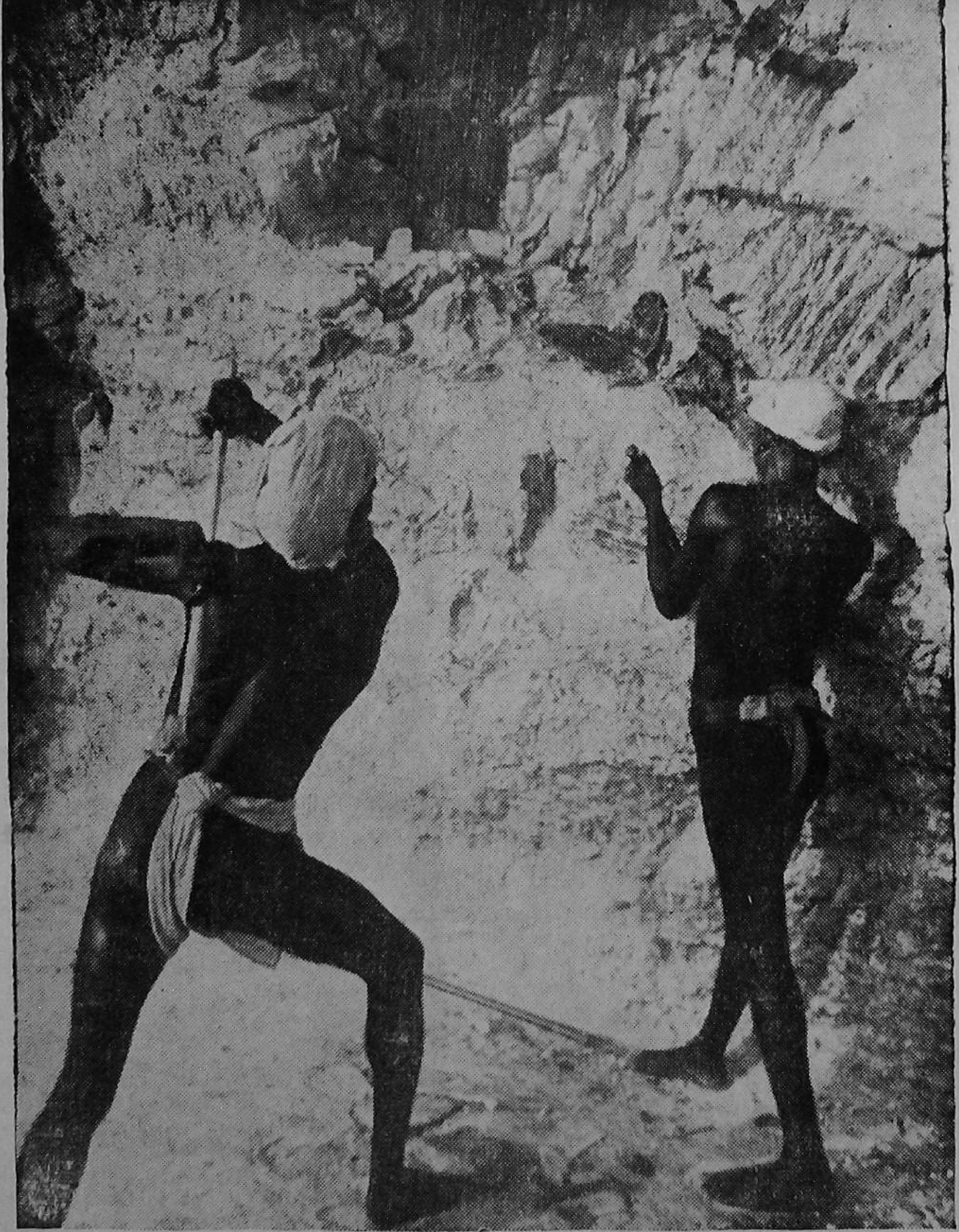
(To Be Continued)

Central Purchase Organisation

Sardar Swaran Singh, Union Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, inaugurating the first meeting of the Central Purchase Advisory Council of which he is the Chairman, on September 18 said the Council was set up on the recommendations of the Stores Purchase Committee as it was felt that it would help make the Central Purchase Organisation more effective and responsive in its relations with the industrial and trading committee.

The Government's main objective was, he said, two-fold namely, to try and make the Central Purchase Organisation a really effective and efficient instrument for purchase of Government requirements and to ensure that the policy followed by the organisation encouraged indigenous manufacture of stores purchased by Government.

He also said that the majority recommendations of the Stores Purchase Committee had been accepted by Government and necessary action was being taken to implement them. "As a result, the efficiency of the Central Purchase Organisation has shown some signs of improvement though I will readily admit that there is considerable scope for further improvement. I would, nevertheless, assure you that the organisation is now more responsive to suggestions for improvement than in the past and is taking action to eliminate defects," he added.



COAL PRODUCTION TO GO UP

During the Second Plan, surveys and investigations of mineral resources are being pressed orward more intensively than ever A large increase in the production of coal in the public sector calls for immediate attention being paid to prospecting of new coal fields. The present prod ction of coal in India is about 38 million tons, bulk of which is produced so far in the private sector. It is proposed to increase the production of coal by about 22 million tons in the next f ve years ; 12 million tons in the public sector and the remaining 10 million tons in the private sector.

Working Of A State Enterprise

Estimates Committee's Disclosures In Hindustan Insecticides Deals

The Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha in its 27th report presented to the Lok Sabha on May 18 recommended that the agreement entered into by the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., with the Delhi Cloth Mills Chemical Works for the supply of raw materials for the manufacture of D.D.T. should be placed on the table of the House as soon as practicable.

The Committee would have liked to refer to certain details in the agreement but it had been represented by the Production Ministry that it was not usual for business concerns to make public such details. Though the Committee did not accordingly give such details in this report, it felt that such arguments should not be held to apply to nationalised industries. In such cases the committee considers that publication of such details would have a salutary effect in that it may lead to correction of any unfortunate features that may appear in these agreements.

Favouring D.C.M.C. Works

The Committee criticised the way the question of acquiring a site for the DDT factory in Delhi was handled on behalf of the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. "It is surprising to note that the exact location of the site should have been included as an item of agreement between the Government and the international organisation even before the negotiations with the DCM Chemical Works were concluded. This, apart from being unnecessary, could certainly not have been of help to the Government in its subsequent negotiations with the DCM Chemical Works who were in a favourable position in that they were aware that the Government was already bound to take up the site near the DCM Chemical Works and was depending on the works for its raw materials for the factory."

The Committee also did not see the need for payment of Rs. 4,000 to DCM Chemical Works as part of the lease charges even while the ownership of the land was in dispute and while attempts were being made to obtain the land for the Government.

Disadvantage For DDT Factory

Regarding cost structure, the Committee said it appeared that due to the peculiar terms of agreement, the DDT Factory was unable to obtain the benefits of the fall in the market price. The agreement should have atleast provided that the rate charged for chlorine from the DDT Factory, who were the largest single consumers of the chlorine produced by the DCM Chemical Works, should not exceed the rate charged to the other customers of the works. The Committee suggested that the matter should be examined and action taken against officials responsible.

The Committee was of the view that the DDT Factory would have got a more favourable rate for the hydrochloric acid, which it had agreed to sell to the DCM Chemical Works for the first six years. In this case also the Committee has suggested an examination of the matter and suitable action being taken against the officials responsible for not having finalised the agreement for the disposal of waste product along with the agreement for the supply of raw materials.

Non-Official Director

The Committee took exception to the appointment of a Director on the Board of Directors of the DDT Factory who at the same time was a Director of the Managing Agents of the DCM Chemical Works Ltd., which supplied raw materials to the factory, consumed the waste products and was an interested party in the matter of the dispute about the proprietorship of the land on the which DDT factory was situated. While appreciating the need of appointing directors with business experience, in this particular case the Committee, from the perusal of the minutes of the Board of Directors, was not satisfied with the arrangements.

Parliamentary Control On Public Undertakings

Mr. Balwant Rai G. Mehta, Chairman of the Lok Sabha Estimates Committee, speaking in Madras on November 25 on "Parliamentary control on exchequer", said that the parliamentary control on the working of public undertakings, which were of an autonomous character, was not what it should be, although technically speaking, the Ministers under whose charge these undertakings functioned were responsible to Parliament and had to answer questions put by members on their working. The control which in the case of private companies the shareholders exercised was absent in the case of these public undertakings, and it was also not possible for Parliament to devote enough time to scrutinise the working of these undertakings to the extent necessary. Therefore, some machinery was required to see that the control of public finance, which was being utilised for working these undertakings, was real and effective without in any way impairing their autonomous character. This question was now being considered at the highest possible level and Mr. Mehta expected the Government to announce their decision early.

Mechanics of Accountability

Explaining briefly the mechanics of parliamentary financial control, as exercised through its 30-member Estimates Committee, Mr. Mehta said that this body had powers even to go behind the policies of the Government and suggest alternative policies to ensure better results. From his three years' experience as Chairman of this Committee, Mr. Mehta felt that the functioning of this body had proved very useful in the sense that the departments and the Ministries which it took up for scrutiny had become alert, with the result that they began to bestow thought on things which were hitherto neglected. Again in the oral examinations the officials of the department announced several new decisions calculated to improve the working of their department. Finally, the Ministries treated the recommendations of the committee with great respect.

Industrial and Management Research

The Chief Minister of Mysore, Mr. S. Nijalingappa, on November 14 inaugurated an industrial and management research unit for planning, organised under the auspices of the Indian Statistical Institute. With its headquarters in Bangalore, the unit will study the scope of application of the general principles of management and organisation to nationalised industries in the region around Bangalore and extend its study to the wider survey of southern India when possible. The unit will have the following three directors: Mr. R. Natrajan, formerly managing director of Indian Telephone Industries, Dr. Bhola D. Panth, formerly Deputy General Manager of Posts and Telegraph Workshops, and Mr. D. P. Basu, industrial consultant. It will be assisted by Dr. A. T. A. Learmonth, Professor of Geography in Liverpool University.

Mr. Nijalingappa, in his opening remarks, underlined the importance of regional planning which, he said, should receive as much attention as national planning itself.

Dr. Learmonth said that regional planning was universally acclaimed. "If we carry out systematic surveys, integrating the findings of many Government departments and branches of knowlege, State and inter-State plans may also be better integrated so that men and resources indifferent regions of India may be more fully employed, development more evenly spread and transport costs minimised", he added.

Economic Autocracy

Mr. J. R. D. Tata has reiterated the concern with which he and many others view the ever increasing centralisation of economic power in the hands of the Government. The trend towards a highly centralised form of State "capitalism", the nationalisation of life insurance, the use of ordinances as a means of implementing economic policies, the frequent resource to constitutional amendments and some of the provisions of

(*Continued on page* 24)

Employment In Central Government Establishments

The following table gives the total number of civilian personnel employed in Central Government establishments in India (excluding Railways) as on the last day of each year for the period 1951 to 1954 and at the end of each month from August 1955, to July 1956. The statistics are based on staff strength returns received from establishments under the various Ministries of the Government of India. They do not include figures in respect of Indian Embassies and Missions abroad.

Year/Month	Regular Establishments					Non-Regular Establishments †	Total Columns (6)&(7)
	Administrative & Executive	Clerical Ministerial*	Skilled & Semi-skilled	Unskilled	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1951							
December	54,814	1,42,850	1,45,304	2,47,694	5,90,662	...	5,90,662
1952							
December	58,555	1,50,870	1,45,455	2,60,613	6,15,493	...	6,15,493
1953							
December	58,583	1,54,364	1,56,103	2,47,161	6,16,211	...	6,16,211
1954							
December	56,680	1,64,067	1,59,282	2,52,707	6,32,736	...	6,32,736
1955							
August	49,284	1,85,003	1,57,291	2,49,087	6,40,665	87,504	7,28,169
September	30,749	1,87,133	1,55,394	2,49,450	6,42,726	90,346	7,33,072
October	52,169	1,88,292	1,55,657	2,50,618	6,46,736	88,705	7,35,441
November	52,580	1,91,802	1,54,552	2,48,504	6,47,438	90,243	7,37,681
December	52,935	1,98,553	1,50,427	2,45,926	6,47,841	75,703	7,23,544
1956							
January	53,426	1,99,251	1,50,227	2,48,890	6,51,794	78,529	7,30,323
February	53,955	1,99,728	1,49,891	2,48,570	6,52,144	80,209	7,32,353
March	54,506	2,01,395	1,50,421	2,47,779	6,54,101	80,086	7,34,187
April	55,575	2,02,797	1,50,189	2,46,923	6,55,484	78,562	7,34,046
May	56,962	2,04,721	1,49,728	2,45,293	6,56,704	77,823	7,34,527
June	59,346	2,07,053	1,48,871	2,45,090	6,60,360	78,502	7,38,862
July	60,474	2,08,734	1,49,390	2,45,274	6,63,872	78,646	7,42,518

* From January, 1955, the non-gazetted administrative staff which was so far being shown under the head "Administrative and Executive," has been added on to the group "clerical" to form this new group."

† Non-Regular establishment includes persons paid from contingencies, work charged staff, and other daily or monthly rated personnel, if any.

Chief Engineers As P. W. D. Secretaries

Technical Staff's Dissatisfaction

Mr. S. L. Malhotra, Chief Engineer, Irrigation Branch, Punjab, and President, Central Board of Irrigation and Power, addressing the 27th annual meeting of the Board on November 20 said that Indian Engineers' administrative efficiency "had also been of high order in the past. But, recent trends in the changing administrative set-up of the country have had an undermining effect on its past standards. These trends aim at depleting the technical departments at Government levels of all technical competence and assistance. This is, indeed, dangerous. It is against the repeated verdict of experienced administrators, technical experts and scientists. The process, instead of adding expediency and efficiency to the functioning of the departments, make them go slowly and has a dampening effect on the spirit of the technical personnel."

He suggested that the Chief Engineer should also perform the duties of the Secretary to the Public Works Department. He was of the opinion that the duties of the Chief Engineer and the Secretary did not conflict with each other in any way, and, in fact, were complementary to each other. Further, they were so intimately connected as to be inseparable, except at the risk of inefficiency.

Mr. Malhotra stated that when the question of initiating and piloting schemes through official stages came, it was apparent that a Chief Engineer as Secretary could perform this duty most efficiently and with greater vigour than a non-technical Secretary. He could deal with the cases in clear and convincing manner from his intimate knowledge of the schemes. He quoted the Prime Minister in favour of his contention that the over-all administrative control of the Department at the Government level must be exercised by top technicians.

Mr. Malhotra also suggested that the technical and scientific services should be upgraded and brought in line with other administrative services.

The Bombay Governor, Mr. M. C. Chagla, inagurating the meeting of the Board, referred to the suggestion of the President—that of appointing the Chief Engineer as the Secretary of the Public Works Department—and said that this problem could be solved by appointing a non-technical person as Joint Secretary of the Department.

Delay In Action Against Corrupt Officers

The Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament in its 17th report presented to the Lok Sabha on July 28, dealing with the appropriation accounts of the Railways for 1953-54, expressed "distress" at the routine manner in which cases had been dealt with by the Railway Board against some high ranking officers who had been charge-sheeted and suspended for various financial irregularities committed by them in the purchase of stores. Diciplinary action against the high officers of ex-Saurashtra Railway had not been finalised, although the charges were of a very serious nature. Though the Departmental Committee had disclosed that the officers concerned had forged documents, which called for criminal investigation, no report had been made to Police for necessary action.

In another case relating to building of certain rail cars and trailers, the Committee found the General Manager and the Chief Mechanical Engineer, responsible for comitting grave financial irregularities.

The Committee were critical of the delays in inflicting punishment on these officers and have impressed on the Railway Board the need for vigorously pursuing the case which was stated to be under reference with the Union Public Service Commission.

(*Continued from page* 22)

the new Companies Act have all threatened the balance of the mixed economy to which, he thought, the country was committed. On the other hand, "we are witnessing in India an uninterrupted growth of Government power in the economic field and are already well on the way to a strange and unnatural combination of political democracy and economic autocracy."

Indiscipline In Life Insurance Corporation

The Finance Minister, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, replying to the questions in the Lok Sabha on November 21, accused Communists of undermining the successful functioning of the Life Insurance Corporation, which runs the life insurance busisness in India since its nationlisation recently. He said that the Communist Party was keeping indiscipline amongst the staff of the Corporation "going and growing." This indiscipline created by the agitation for scales of pay was likely to affect the business of the Corporation, he added.

Madras Experience

The Finance Minister told the House of his experience when he visited an insurance office in Madras about 11.45 one morning recently. He found the staircase barricaded by about 200 employees. After he had entered the office by the back door, these 200 employees came out of their office and shouted slogans till 1.15 in the afternoon. "What happened to their work is anybody's guess. If this is not lack to discipline, what is"?

Business Down

Mr. M. C. Shah, Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, informed the House that, generally, up to the end of August last, insurance business transacted was, more or less, on level with that during the corresponding period last year. The total figures for the period from January 19 to June 30, 1956, were approximately Rs. 95 crores as compared to about Rs. 78 crores during the corresponding period in 1955. The business transacted since September 1, 1956, was likely to show a fall owing to the dislocation incidental to the process of integration and reorganisation in which various units disappeared and gave place to zonal and divisional offices.

Charges of Nepotism

The leader of the Communist group, Mr. A. K. Gopalan, put several questions in the Lok Sabha on November 26, making allegations of irregularities, nepotism and favouritism in the matter of appointment of top officers and selection of persons as Divisional Officers of the Life Insurance Corporation.

Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, the Finance Minister, replying, said that a committee called the Lall Committee was appointed to assist the Corporation in the selection of officers and fixation of their grades. It would take another three months to complete its work. As the Corporation had to start functioning from September 1 last, certain appointments had been provisionally made. About 190 insurance companies had been integrated and it might be that some persons had been adversely affected. The findings of the Committee could be examined and if, as a result of this examination, some cases had to be reviewed, that would be done.

Mr. M. C. Shah, Minister for Revenue and Civil Expenditure, said that the appointment of officers was provisional subject to the recommendations of the Lall Committee.

Token Strike

The employees of the Life Insurance Corporation, number 21,000 went on a token strike on December 5 in protest against the pay scales and service conditions. Representation for the employees in the management of the Corporation was also demanded.

Railway Accounting 30 Year Out-of-Date

Mr. J. Dayal, Financial Commissioner, told a conference of Railway Financial Advisers and Chief Accounts Officers in New Delhi on May 29, called to consider the setting up of machinery to ensure avoidance of wasteful expenditure and to improve efficiency through simplification of procedure, said there had been no comprehentive review of the accounting procedure since 1927, although since then many changes had occurred politically, socially economically and in various other directions, as a result of which a lot of dead wood had crept in, which had to be cut out.

Economy In Administration—Demand For Pay Commission—Corrupt Officers

Mr. B. R. Bhagat, Deputy Minister for Finance, informed the Lok Sabha on November 16 that the Special Reorganisation unit of the Government of India had recommended annual economies totalling Rs. 135.74 lakhs in respect of the different Ministries and their subordinate offices. As against this, the Ministries had agreed to reductions totalling Rs. 76.88 lakhs. The recommendations related to details and were largely based on the existing procedural and organisational matters. The Unit, Mr. Bhagat added, was yet to make recommendations on reorganisation and revision of office procedure.

Agitation for Pay Commission

Ninety per cent of the country's 2.8 million Government of India employees will not turn up to draw salaries on January 2 to focus the Government's attention on their demands for a new pay commission and an immediate increase in dearness allowance. Call for abstention from accepting salary on January 2 has been given by the Confederation of Central Government Employees, New Delhi.

A spokesman of the co-ordination committee of the Central Government Employees' Union in West Bengal said in Calcutta on December 14 that the movement of another pay commission, which was started in West Bengal two years ago, had now become country-wide. With the present rise in the cost of living, each employee was entitled to a minimum of Rs. 30 monthly as extra dearness allowance. He also pointed out that since independence, contary to official assurances, the trade union rights of the employees had been curtailed.

Corrupt G. I. Officers

Mr. B. N. Datar informed the Rajya Sabha on November 28 that investigations by the Special Police Establishment have revealed that 19 gazetted and 33 non-gazetted officers of the Government of India were in possession of properties much beyond their means during the period January 1953 to October, 1956. Mr. Datar said that of these officers, two gazetted officers were convicted and the case against a non-gazetted officer was pending on October 31 last. The cases of 49 persons were reported for departmental action. Of them, five were punished, 10 exonerated and cases in respect of 34 were pending.

S. P. E.'s Work In September

The Special Police Establishment of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs secured departmental punishment in 13 cases during September. Six Government servants were involved in these cases of whom three were removed from service. Action was taken against six business firms for malpractices.

A.-I. Services In Reorganised States

The Government of India has announced through an order entitled "All-India Service" (Reorganisation of Caders Order 1956) the strength of cadres of the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service for the seven reorganised States. The total authorised strength for Bombay has been fixed at 178 I.A.S. and 130 I.P.S., for Kerala 55 and 26, Madhya Pradesh 161 and 104, Mysore 91 and 48, Punjab 87 and 75, Rajasthan 124 and 82, and Andhra Pradesh 151 and 72, respectively. The total authorised strength for each State includes Senior posts under the State and the Central Governments, deputation, leave and training reserves and junior posts.

Government and Permanent Services

Acharya J. V. Kriplani, speaking in the Lok Sabha on September 1 on the Government Bill for the establishment of a commission for the proper development of khadi and village industries, said the Government wanted to keep the strings in their own hands, that is, in the hands of the permanent services.

Public Administration In States

Andhra

Chief Minister Gives Up Official Residence.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddi, finds his official residence, 'Dilkusha', too big for him, and has decided to move into a cosy guest house in "Greenlands" in Begumpet. Mr. Reddi said on November 29 that he did not find use for most part of the palatial building, 'Dilkusha', which will now be converted into a Government guest house.

It will be recalled that the Chief Minister of the former Madhya Bharat Mr. Takhatmal Jain, too had given up a major part of his official residence in Indore to be used as a government guest house.

Bombay

Economy in Administration

The Governor of Bombay, Mr. M. C. Chagla, addressing the first joint session of the State Legislature on November 21, said that it should be the endeavour of all not only to maintain the State's pre-eminent position in social reform, industrial development, political stability and administrative efficiency, but to try to improve it.

Referring to some of the problems confronting the State, Mr. Chagla said: "It will also be further necessary to ensure that there is, in the first place, the utmost economy in the organisation of administration. This is a very vital matter as, otherwise, adequate funds will not be released for development work. It would be distressing if mere maintenance of normal administration is allowed to absorb the bulk of our limited resources. Special effort, therefore, has to be made to keep down our non-development expenditure. Planning implies forethought and careful calculation of the urgency of various types of schemes. A scheme of priorities and balanced co-ordinated development are integrated parts of such planning. It is, therefore, necessary that once a plan is framed it should be broadly adhered to and the programme contained in it carried out. Minor adjustments within the Plan may be made for attaining a degree of flexibility."

Traditions of Efficiency

Mr. Morarji Desai, Bombay's out-going Chief Minister, in a farewell address on October 31 to the Secretariat Staff, exhorted it to maintain the high traditions of efficiency, honesty and responsibility that has been recognised as Bombay's special merit.

Mr. G. V. Bedekar, Secretary to Government in the Education Department and Chairman of the Sachivalaya Gymkhana, said that civil servants and officers had found work, under the democratic regime since 1947, a pleasure. They felt that they were going through a new patriotic experience after freedom.

Secretariat Annexe To Cost Rs. 72 Lakhs

Mr. Morarji Desai laid the foundation-stone of the Rs. 72-lakh annexe to Sachivalaya Foreshore Road on November 12. Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Desai experessed the hope that the annexe would be constructed more speedily and at a lesser cost than Sachivalaya. He had been told that the new six-storeyed building with a carpet area of 166,000 sq. ft., would take about two years for completion against 15 months taken by Sachivalaya. He was not happy about it and would like the annexe to be ready for occupation within 12 or 15 months. The cost of the new building had gone up on account of the high prices of steel and cement.

Mr. Desai stated that when Sachivalaya was constructed it was thought that the need for constructing an additional building for housing Government offices would not be felt immediately. But after Sachivalaya had been completed, it was found that all offices of the State Government could not be located at Government-owned permises. However, it was not then thought that the need for constructing another building would arise soon. He said that following the enlarged Bombay State, it was found that the existing

Sachivalaya was absolutely inadequate for housing even the Secretariat offices of the new State. It was, therefore, decided to construct the annexe to provide accommodation for the new offices that had been shifted to Bombay.

Before the Sachivalaya was constructed, the Government was spending nearly Rs. six lakhs in a year on rent for Government offices in Bombay city alone. It was in order to save part of this money that the idea of Sachivalaya was mooted and the then retiring Chief Minister, Mr. B.G. Kher, had laid its foundation-stone. The same practice had been adopted and a retired Chief Minister had been asked to lay the foundation-stone of the Sachivalaya.

Decentralisation

Addressing a reception given in his honour on November 28 at Bhuj, former capital of Kutch, which was formerly Centrally administered and is now merged in Bombay State, the Chief Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, announced steps were being taken for decentralisation of power in order to solve local problems speedily and locally. It was also necessary that people should play their own part in making the new plan a success by utilising the agency of local officials and not looking to the capital of the State for every thing.

Mr. Y. B. Chavan, speaking in the Legislative Assembly on November 24, said the Government was alive to the difficulties that might arise in administering the enlarged State. A policy of decentralisation was already in force. The Divisional Officers would have wide powers to deal with problems on the spot. The question of "Zonal Councils", he said, was a controversial one. He could not say anything about it now. The Union Home Minister had already made a statement on the floor of Parliament. The Government had taken steps to have its nominees on the Councils.

Official Language

Referring to the issue of official language, Mr. Chavan told the House that right from the district level, to the regional level the regional language was being used. The general policy on the question of official language would be announced after the publication of the report of the Language Commission. There need be no fear with regard to the use of regional languages. All the languages of the State would be encouraged for the use of the administration.

Ministers' Salaries and Allowances

Bombay Legislative Assembly on November 23 passed, a Bill providing for salaries of Ministers and Deputy Ministers. The Ministers would be paid Rs. 1,100 a month by way of salary, and given a furnished, rent-free residence, or Rs. 250 as house allowance in lieu of such residence, a car and a conveyance allowance of Rs. 250. The Deputy Ministers would be paid Rs. 750 each as salary and given a furnished, rent-free residence or Rs. 150 in lieu of such residence and a conveyance allowance of Rs. 200 a month.

The Ministers and Deputy Ministers would be entitled to travelling and daily allowance while touring on public business. The Chief Minister's sumptuary allowance had been raised from Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 15,000 in view of his increased commitments. The total financial commitment on the Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' salaries and allowances would be about Rs. six lakhs.

Fair Wage For Middle Class

The Chief Minister, Mr. Y. B. Chavan, expressed surprise that some members had described the salaries as "high". One or two Opposition members had also done some "high pedestal" talk on "parliamentary democracy" without being able to understand what it meant, Mr. Chavan said.

Salaries paid to the Ministers of the Bombay Government were no more than a "fair wage" for the middle class, Mr. Chavan said. It was very necessary that a Minister should be paid a reasonable salary to enable him to function efficiently and maintain purity of administration.

Legislators' Salaries

The Assembly also passed a Bill, pro-

viding for a salary of Rs. 150 per month, and a daily allowance of Rs. 10, conveyance allowance of Rs. three per day and travelling allowance for the members of the Legislature. Moving the Bill, the Law Minister, Mr. Shantilal Shah, informed the Legislative Assembly on November 23 that the original Bill had provided for a salary of Rs. 200. The Government had since decided that the salary should be Rs. 150 a month. Amendments tabled to that effect, one of them by an Opposition member, and another by a Congress member, were accepted by the Government.

Explaining the financial implications of the Bill, the Law Minister said the total expenditure on that account, excluding the travelling allowance to be paid to members, would be about Rs. 12,52,495.

Legislators of the previous Bombay State were being paid Rs. 150 and those of Saurashtra Rs. 100, while those of Madhya Pradesh Rs. 200.

Option To Retire

In view of the hardship caused to some Government servants because of the shifting from one place to another, the Government of Bombay has decided to give them the option to retire. The option will be applicable to permanent as well as temporary Government servants of the former States of Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch as well as those of former Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad who are allocated to Bombay State, but it is not applicable to Bombay Government servants who are allocated to Mysore State. The option is to be exercised within three months from November 1, 1956. For this purpose, the Government has issued a set of rules called the (Reorganisation of States) Premature Retirement Rules. Under these rules, pension or gratuity will be calculated on the basis of the service normally put in plus one fifth thereof.

Action Against Corrupt Officers

Anti-corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Force in Bombay State took action against 39 public servants on charges of corruption and misconduct and against 78 persons for offences under the Prohibition Act during September, 1956. Of the 39 public servants, 28 were caught red-handed after they had accepted bribes and the remaining 11 were proceeded against after making inquiries into the complaints received from the members of the public.

Can Chief Minister Say : "My Government"

Bombay's Finance Minister, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, replying to the debate on Governor's address in the Legislative Council on November 27 regretted that Mr. Donde should have taken objection to the expression "my Government" in the Governor's address. He said that Prime Minister often referred to the Union Government as "my Government". Only the other day, the Chief Minister of Bombay had referred to the Government in the Assembly as "my Government". Dr. Mehta emphasised that the expression used by the Governor was "perfectly parliamentary and constitutional" and there was nothing autocratic or dictatorial about it.

Jammu & Kashmir

Public Service Commission

The Kashmir Constituent Assembly on November 5 adopted clauses in the draft constitution relating to collection of taxes, setting up of the consolidated Fund and the Contingency Fund, recruitment and conditions of service in the State and the setting up of a Public Service Commission.

The House adopted clauses providing for the establishment of a Public Service Commission. The clauses provide that it would not be incumbent on the part of the Sadar-i-Riyasat to consult the Commission for reservation of appointments of posts for classes not adequately represented in services. Members and the Chairman of the Commission would be appointed by the Sadar-i-Riyasat. Half of the members of the Commission shall be persons who must have held office in the State at least for ten years. The tenure for the membership of the Commission will be five years.

Kashmiris in A. I. Services

Mr. Girdharilal Dogra, speaking on the Public Services chapter of the draft Consti-

tution in the Constituent Assembly on November 6, said that the Kashmir Government was in correspondence with the Union Government regarding the entry of Kashmiris into the all-India services. If the State's proposal is approved, 22 senior civil officers and four police officers will become members of the I. A. S. and I. P. S. Besides senior officers of the Kashmir civil and police services becoming eligible to be seconded to the Indian Administrative and Police Services, permanent residents of this State will also be able to compete for the all-India services.

Urdu As Official Language

The Kashmir Constituent Assembly on November 6 adopted a clause in the draft constitution declaring that Urdu shall be the official language of the State. The clause provided that English will, however, continue to be used for all official purposes of the state for which it was being used immediately before the commencement of the constitution unless the state legislature otherwise provides.

Kerala

Beginning of Impartial Administration

A leading National Daily has paid the following tribute to the work of Mr .P.S. Rau, as Adviser to the Rajpramukh and later as Acting Governor of the State :—

"Mr. P. S. Rau's departure from Trivandrum has ended a unique chapter in the history of this State. For eight short months (the two Ministries which preceded him also had about the same time) he worked hard. When he came to Travancore-Cochin, he promised an impartial administration. He geared up the entire administrative machinery of the State to meet the additional responsibility of conducting the affairs of Kerala. Officials admit that at least the higher strata of civil service in the State had been pulled out of the morass of political and communal influence in which it had been bogged down.

"The beginnings of an impartial and efficient civil service have been well made by this able administrator. But, all political leaders were united in their attack on Mr. P. S. Rau from his arrival to the time of his departure. Some maligned him, and others ridiculed him. A few more made allegations against him. But, never did he make an attempt to cross swords with them. It is known that, in several important issues, he declined to play politics".

Corruption Enquiry

The Kerala Government has suspended three top forest officials and ordered a judicial inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the Forest Department. Mr. Justice, G. Kumara Pillai, of the Kerala High Court, has been appointed Special Commissioner to investigate the allegations. The Government's decision followed the report of the Special Anti-Corruption Inspector-General Mr. T. A. Bombavale, who was brought to the State by Mr. P. S. Rau to investigate the charges of corruption in the former Travancore-Cochin State. The suspended officials are Mr. S. Venketeswaran, Forest Conservator in the former State and now on special duty after four months' leave, Mr. Narayana Murthy, District Forest Officer, and a forest ranger.

Madras

D. A. for Non-gazetted Officers

Unmarried Government servants drawing Rs. 250 and over, and all officers getting over Rs. 400 have been excluded from a Madras Government order enhancing dearness allowance. The new rates of dearness allowance, which will be retrospective from November 1, range from Rs. 25 for those on pay not exceeding Rs. 39 a month to $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the pay plus Rs. 5 for non-gazetted officers on pay exceeding Rs. 300 but not Rs. 400. Mr. C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, had promised the enhancement of D.A. in the State Assembly on October 25.

The non-gazetted officers of Madras have decided to observe a "Protest Day" to express their disappointment and dissatisfaction at the recent 'paltry' increase of Rs. 5 in their dearness allowance.

Office Equipment For Greater Efficiency

Mechanical gadgets and office equipment, designed to speed up work in business

houses, public offices and commercial establishments, while at the same time ensuring accuracy and a perfect finish, were shown at an exhibition organised by Remington Rand of India, Ltd., in Madras in November. On demonstration at the exhibition were systems and equipment which provide administrative control for production, sales, personnel, stocks planning and most other phases of commerce; dictating and photo-record equipment; type-writers in as many as nine Indian languages and accounting and calculating machines. Two new pieces of equipment recently introduced to India by Remington Rand were also demonstrated. One was a forward transcribing aid to typists, called line-a-vue and the other was the Schedugraph, which is an industrial and business charting medium, providing a means of pictorially presenting management facts in a simple, action-producing and time-saving manner.

Madhya Pradesh

Waste From Faith In Occult Powers

The former Madhya Bharat Government now merged in Madhya Pradesh, incurred an "infructuous expenditure" of Rs. 1,68,000 in digging a huge well for augmenting water supply of a certain town in the State, according to the appropriation accounts for the year 1953-54 and audit report for 1955 submitted to the State Assembly by the Finance Minister on August 23. The report said a site for the well was selected by a non-technical person, reputed to possess occult powers. The work, which began in October 1951, was given up after two years, when it became evident that the yield of water would not be adequate. By then, the report said, an expenditure of Rs. 2,46,000 had been incurred which proved infructuous except for the machinery purchased at a cost of Rs. 78,000.

Mysore

Different Pattern of Pay Scales

Education Minister, Mr. Kadidal Manjappa, speaking in Bangalore on November 16, referred to the different pattern or pay scales existing in the five merged areas of the new State and pointed out that disparity between the highest and the lowest pay scales was an all-India problem to be tackled at an all-India level.

Mr. M. P. Patil, Mysore's Revenue Minister, assured on November 18 that the pay scales of Government servants in the Karnatak region of former Bombay State now merged in Mysore State would remain as before.

New Secretariat Building

The new Secreteriat of the Mysore Government started functioning on November 5 in the new Vidhan Soudha. Though having reached the final stage of construction, it did not have telephone or electricity, which led to considerable confusion, when the Secretariat was shifted into it from its former building.

The State Government, it will be recalled, in July had appointed a three-man expert committee to examine the state of accounts and scrutinise the expenditure in respect of the expenditure of Rupees 130 laks on this Secretariat building, as against an originale estimate of Rs. 50 laks. The Estimates Committee and the Financial Enquiry Committee had suggested such an enquiry.

A novel saying, " Governments work is God's work," carved an a big stone signboard welcomes government officials to this new secretariat-cum-legislature building (called Vidhan Soudha) in Bangalore.

Punjab

Bhakra Canal Enquiry

The high-powered committe with Mr. Justice Dulat of the Punjab High Court as chairman, which was appointed by the Punjab Government to look into alleged irregularities committed by the officials and non-officials in the construction of Bhakra canal, is likely to submit its report to the Punjab Government in January next. Twenty-two Irrigation officials, including Mr. K. R. Sharma, Superintending Engineer, Narwana branch of the Bhakra Canal Project, who have been charged with corruption, have been directed to submit their replies within 15 days after which

an inquiry against them is likely to be initiated by Mr. K. L. Fletcher, Financial Commissioner, Punjab Government. The officials are now under suspension.

Another Officer For Corruption Enquiry

The Government of Punjab are likely to appoint a permanent full time special inquiry officer in connection with the drive against corruption among its officials. This officer would deal mostly with allegations against gazetted officers. His appointment will not in any way affect the course of the two major inquiries into allegations against Bhakra Canal engineers for which special inquiry officers have already been appointed. The State Financial Commissioner, Mr. A. L. Fletcher. has started the inquiry against a former Chief Engineer and others while a similar set of cases against nearly 20 engineers will be heard in December by Sardar Raghbir Singh. The first cases which this whole-time inquiry officer will hear relate to complaints against some members of the State Civil Service and a few engineers.

Permanent arrangements have also been made to deal expeditiously with charges of corruption against non-gazetted and subordinate grade employees. An officer in each district has been given special power to try the cases deparmentally.

Most of the complaints against junior Government employees will be handled by the "flying squads" which have been formed for the purpose.

Direct Action By Overseers

Nearly 2000 overseers attached to the Punjab Works Department launched "direct action" on November 15 to protest against the State Government's refusal to concede their demands. District reports said that overseers paraded the streets in various towns in the Punjab wearing black badges. They will continue to wear black badges till the Government accepts their demands. The action committee of the Engineering Overseers' Association had summoned an emergency meeting to chalk out its programme for launching "token strikes" in various development works in the State, including the Bhakra-Nangal project. The overseers' demands include security, "reasonable" pay scales, and gazetted rank.

"Administration Drifting Along"

Commenting on the new Punjab Cabinet, which assumed office on November 1, a National Daily pointed out that it suffers from an obvious paucity of administrative talent. The newspaper alleged that during the past year or so, the administration of most departments in the State had merely drifted along. Some of the important taxes approved by the legislature in April had still not been levied. The period had seen large-scale resentment and frustration among the engineering services engaged on major development projects. Sections of the subordinate services had been distinctly restive. No firm decision had been taken on the method of transport nationalisation. Land reforms, an issue on which the Chief Minister felt so strongly at one time and threatened to resign, were being implemented in a tardy manner.

Public Service Commission Member

Mr. P. L. Varma, Chief Engineer and Secretary, Capital Projects, Chandigarh, has been appointed member of the Union Public Service Commission.

Rajasthan

Education Director's Indiscretion

The Public Accounts Committee of the former Ajmer State Vidhan Sabha has severely criticised the State Directorate of Education for withdrawing money from the treasury to avoid a grant lapsing and furnishing wrong certificates to audit. The Committee said the Director should not have withdrawn the money not required for immediate use, and should have allowed the grant to lapse and then taken the necessary action next year.

Uttar Pradesh

Feasts For Government Servants

During question in the State Vidhan Sabha on August 9 several members complained

that despite Government orders to the contrary, officials continued to enjoy feasts given in their honour on their transfer or promotion. Deputy Police Minister Mr. J. P. Rawat said that a Government order of 1950 had drawn attention of Government servants to the Service rules prohibiting them from attending parties or dinners held in their honour on the occasion of their transfer or promotion. These rules, he said, permitted a Government servant to attend a farewell entertainment of a substantially private and informal character. Government sanction, however, was required in doubtful cases.

One member pointed out that in April last 8 or 10 feasts were held in honour of a retiring official. Another member advised the Deputy Minister to read the newspapers to find out the number of farewell parties given to an official at Varanasi. The Deputy Minister, answering another supplementary said, there was no need to set up an agency to check breach of rules by Government servants.

Further asked to explain the nature of parties which the officials could attend on occassions, the Deputy Minister said that Government servants could throw parties among themselves. To a suggestion made by the P. S. P. leader Mr. Genda Singh that officers should be permitted to enjoy parties in their honour, whether private or public, the Deputy minister replied that it was not in public interest to allow them to do so.

21 Gun Salute For Collectors

It may be recalled that on February 28 a Congress member had told the Vidhan Sabha that there were some district magistrates in the State who still took 21-gun salutes when they visited the rural areas and were escorted by pilots, which was the exclusive privilege of the Ministers. Mr. Nauranglal had gone on to say that bureaucracy had become very powerful and unless a check was imposed on it the country's future was doomed.

Death In Hunting Party

A number of questions were also asked about the death of a beater in a hunting party which had included the Divisional Commissioner of Varanasi, the D.I.G. Police of Eastern Range, the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police of Mirzapur. On March 18 in the forests near Chopan a big game shooting party was organised. Two beaters were attacked by a tiger, and one had died. The Deputy Minister for Forests said that a man-eater was at large in the area and the officers were doing their duty in hunting out the dangerous animal. The Government did not consider it necessary to set up an inquiry into the incident, and there was no question of any compensation being paid to the family of the deceased. The officers had killed a tiger on March 21 but it was not known if it was the man-eater.

Board Of Revenue To Be Reorganised

The U.P. Cabinet on December 4 decided to reorganise the Board of Revenue to make it a strong central authority designed to bring about coordination, cohesion and smooth efficiency in revenue work.

The re-constituted Board has Mr. R. T. Shivdasani as Administrative Member and Mr. S. H. Zaheer and Mr. J. Nigam, Land Reforms Commissioner, as Members. All the three officers are senior members of the I. C. S.

The Cabinet also decided to constitute a five-man committee to work out details and procedure of work and delegations. The committee will consist of three members of the re-constituted Board, the Reorganisation Commissioner and the Joint Secretary, Finance Department,

The question of reorganising the Board of Revenue had been engaging the attention of the State Government for some time now. The recent change in policy in relation to duties and functions of the Divisional Commissioners as well as the need to take full advantage of the vast administrative experience of the members of the Board has given added importance and urgency to this question.

With reorganisation of the Board of Revenue, the Land Reforms Commissioner's organisation, which was set up in 1949, has

ceased to exist. The organised Board will deal with all matters relating to land reforms, land records, consolidation of holdings and assessment and collection of Government revenues and taxes. It will also be the administrative head of all the Revenue services including Deputy Collectors and Collection Officers.

No Government Service For Persons With Two Wives.

The Cabinet has also decided to promulgate a general rule prohibiting recruitment of persons with more than one wife to services and posts under the State Government. An exemption from this rule may however be granted to a person if the Governor is satisfied that there are special grounds for doing so.

U.P. Govt. Employ 2,62,912 Persons

The U. P. Government employ 2,62,912 persons who are annually paid by way of salaries and allowances Rs. 22,55,61,000. Of these 2,60,155 are employed in non-secretariat departments receiving Rs. 21,91,19,000 and 2,657 in the secretariat receiving Rs. 64,42,000.

The police and the PRD are the largest employers having on their rolls 1,00,343 persons, being 38.17 percent of the total number of employees, receiving annually Rs. 5,85,10,000, which is 25.94 per cent of the total expenditure. Next comes general administration and revenue which employs 51,691 hands receiving Rs. 4,05,40,000. Irrigation employs 18,032 persons, education 12,901, agriculture 10,527 and food and civil supplies 10,068.

Can A Governor Praise His Minister ?

Can a Governor praise his Minister without running the risk of exposing the latter to the charges of self-praise ?

This interesting question cropped up at the Roorkee University Convocation on November 26 when the U. P. Governor, Mr. K. M. Munshi, rose to pay tributes to the State Finance and Power Minister, Mr. Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim, for his vigorous interest in the development of the University.

Hardly had the Governor started complimenting the Minister, when the thought of his position as the constitutional head of the State made him pause and have second thought on the subject.

The Governor said : "I do not know how to thank Hafiz Mohd. Ibrahim. As a constitutional Governor, I am expected to say what my Ministers want me to say and if I praise the Finance Minister, people will say that I am praising him because he wants me to do so".

West Bengal

Noise Problem For Chief Minister

West Bengal's Chief Minister recently followed the very democratic procedure of going to a court of law as an ordinary citizen to get a house, owned by him, vacated for his personal use. The circumstances which led to his doing this are no less interesting and portray the democratic atmosphere in Calcutta.

Dr. B. C. Roy, Chief Minister of West Bengal, giving evidence before the Subordinate Judge of Alipore in an ejectment suit, in which he was himself the plaintiff, said he wanted to shift from his present residence No. 36, Wellington Street, as he found it very difficult to stay in the present house, particularly after he had become Chief Minister, because the place had become very noisy. Since the assumption of his Chief Ministership, Wellington Square had become the venue of meetings every evening and the promoters of these meetings took good care to place a loud speaker facing his house, their intention being that he might hear the proceedings of the meetings. He was feeling the strain after the day's strenuous work when one needed rest. Hardly a procession taken out on the streets for any purpose would omit to shout slogans in front of his house.

Dr. B. C. Roy intended to occupy premises No. 33, Rowland Road, which he had purchased on the assurance of the owner that there would be no difficulty in getting possession. Mr. Krishna Das Nandy, who was carrying on business in the premises had promised to evacuate it but had not done so. Hence, the present suit was filed.

The suit of Dr. Roy was decreed.

Official Language Commission's Report

Publication After Parliamentary Elections

The Government of India do not intend to take any action on the Official Language Commission's Report till after the coming general elections, it is understood. The constitutional requirement of appointing a 30-man Parliamentary Committee to examine the Commission's Report and give its opinion on the findings will be fulfilled only after the new Parliament starts functioning. In accordance with Article 344 of the Constitution, this Committee will consist of 20 members from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha, all of them elected on proportional representation. Only after ascertaining the views of this Committee will the President be in a position to give effect to the Commission's recommendations.

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, informed the Rajya Sabha at question time on November 28, that the question of publishing the report is still under consideration and that he expects a decision by the Government soon.

In view of no likelihood of the Parliamentary Committee being appointed till after the general elections, it seems unlikely that the Government will publish the controversial document in the midst of the excitement over the elections and, therefore, the publication of the report may also be delayed till beyond the elections.

Dr. Lohia's Solution

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Socialist leader, has suggested what he describes as "a simple and rovolutionary solution" to the national language problem in India. While Hindi should be enforced immediately, there should be a stipulation that nobody from the Hindi-speaking areas should be permitted to offer himself for all-India Government service for the next ten years. The non-Hindi speaking areas of India alone should supply recruits to the all-India services, except the armed forces, but all these services would have to conduct their business in Hindi and those recruited take their examinations in that language.

As long as English was used for purposes of Government and other communications among Indians, a stagnant class politics would be inevitable, he said. For the mass politics of socialism, a language would be necessary which could, at some future date, be understood by all in the country. "English can never be so understood. When class politics die, it (English) will also die naturally in the country."

Elephants Understand Hindi

While people in the South are generally hostile to Hindi, the national language, the elephants of the Anamalais appear to be more easily trained and commanded in Hindi. Forest officers in the Anamalais (Coimbatore) told the Madras Chief Minister Mr. K. Kamraj Nadar that the elephants captured by the Forest Department responded well when trained in the medium of the national tongue.

Half of World's Literate People Know English

English is now more widely used and studied than it—or any other language—has ever been before, with about half the world's literate population speaking it as a first or second language or using it for vocational and study purposes.

This was stated in the report for 1955-56—published in London on November 17—of the British Council.

The report said that in recent years about half the world's output of literature on scientific research has been published in English.

In China

In China, English is now to be taught, where teachers are available, in the senior and middle schools, and from 1957 in

(Continued on next page)

Public Administration In Other Countries

France

Civil Servants' Trade Unions

The Congress of the Confederation of Civil Service Unions was held in Paris in June, 1956. According to the Assistant General Secretary of the Confederation, the conditions of civil servants in France have become much worse during the last few years. The purchasing power of civil servants, he said, had been cut by more than a third since 1948. The Congress undertook analysis of the various struggles waged over the past two years so as to draw the essential lessons from them.

Pakistan

Corruption Charge Against Minister

A civil judge of Lahore has issued warrants of attachment of property of the West Pakistan Excise Minister, Mr. Abdul Ghani Ghuman. The action has been taken for non-payment of Rs. 1 lakh by the Minister and his brother to the plaintiff as ordered by a local magistrate in 1953. The Excise Minister also came under heavy fire in the Lahore press recently for transferring an excise official from Lahore to allegedly hush up a bribery case in which the Minister's brother-in-law was the accused. The West Pakistan Cabinet, at a meeting on November 22, reviewed the Minister's decision and transferred the official back to Lahore. It also appointed an officer to expedite the inquiry into the bribery case.

Secretariat Employees' Demonstration

About 1,000 employees of the former Sind Government now working in the West Pakistan Government at Lahore, staged a demonstration in front of the residence of Dr. Khan Sahib, Chief Minister of West Pakistan, demanding house accommodation, repatriation allowance, and other facilities. The employees, earlier, had marched in a procession from the secretariat building to the residence of the Chief Minister.

Bengali As Official Language

Bengali will be used in all official correspondence with immediate effect in the East Pakistan revenue department. This is the first time that Bengali has been ordered to be used as an official language since the constitution adopted a clause to make it one of two official languages of Pakistan.

Singapore

Malayanisation of Civil Service

Fourteen overseas officers in the Singapore Civil Service—most of them Britons—have been given six months' notice from January 1, as part of the Government's Malayanization programme. Some of the officers, however, have been asked to stay on for six months in an advisory capacity.

West Germany

Minister Cuts Red Tape

The first Friday in the month is the "day of the open door" in the Labour Ministry of the Baden-Wuerttemberg State Government in West Germany. Anybody with a complaint can see the Minister himself. Herr Ermin Hohlwegler, Minister, says he can deal more successfully with people in this way than by a whole series of letters or telephone conversations. As many as 120 people call at the Ministry on open days. When pressure is heavy, Herr Hohlwegler is helped by senior officials, Social insurance and pension queries are often settled on the spot.

(*Continued from previous page*)

the junior schools, the Council's report added.

Although Russian takes precedence in most Eastern Europen countries, English is widely studied in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia and in Russia it is estimated that about 10 million children are learning the language.

In Indonesia

The Government of Indonesia has declared English to be the first foreign language for its 90 million population and in Japan, though children may offer English, French or German for examination purposes, the majority choose English, the report said.

Reorganisation Of Collectorates In U. P.*

By **Shri K. K. Dass, I. C. S.,**

Reorganisation Commissioner, and Director of O & M Division, U. P. Govt.

A large number of persons have had occasion to go to a Collectorate: perhaps to renew an arms licence, or to get a passport or a copy of a document, or for a certificate of some kind. They generally find that they cannot get their requests granted easily or quickly. This is because the Collectorate is not as well organised as it should be. Very shortly, Government orders on the re-organization of Collectorates will be issued, and put into effect. For a month or two after this happens great patience will be necessary, both on the part of the staff and of the public. A new creation that may help to tide over this difficult period is an Enquiry Office, which will be established in every large District. This office will be equipped with an inter-communicating telephone to important sections in the Collectorate. The clerk in charge of this office will be chosen with great care to be specially helpful to the public. Once the initial period is over it will be found that things get done much more easily and quickly.

O & M Division

Before I describe how this will be achieved, it may be necessary to say something about the background. If any organisation is to run smoothly someone should study its working constantly, make suggestions for its improvement and see that they are carried out. In a small business organisation or Government office this is done automatically and almost unconsciously by its head. But in a large organisation it is necessary that a separate unit should do this work exclusively. This was realized quite early in business circles but the Government, which is the largest organization of all, did not take any such step till quite recently. It was not till 1942 that an Organisation and Methods Division (O & M for short) was set up under the British Treasury, which is the controlling department in England, somewhat as the Chief Secretary's Department is here.

We were not slow in following suit and an O & M Division was formed in the Central Government, and later in a number of States. In the U. P. various officers had done a good deal of Reorganisation work. However, the Chief Minister decided that reorganization should be done in a systematic manner by a whole-time unit, and an O & M Division was accordingly formed under the Chief Secretary in October last year.

Collectorate : Key Organisation

The Collectorate, which is one of the key organizations in this country, was studied first. Certain interesting facts came to light. One was that the last comprehensive attempt to organize Collectorates was made by Mr. H. W. Pike of the ICS in 1911. Since then two world wars, the struggle for freedom, several booms and slumps, the partition and other major upheavals have occurred. Changes in the working of the Collectorate were made to meet each situation as it arose, but necessarily in a haphazard way. The result of these accumulated changes over the years amounts to something approaching chaos. Every one who has had any contact with a Collectorate probably realises this, specially if he has also had dealings with a well run Government or business office.

Too Many Rules Produce Anarchy

How has this chaos arisen? One generally associates lack of order with primitive conditions where the rule of law does not exist. It is surprising, or perhaps not so surprising, to see that too many rules also tend to produce anarchy. The reason is simple but can perhaps be best explained by an analogy. Rules are guides, and may be compared to roads. If one is put in the middle of a pathless jungle one gets lost. But one gets equally lost in a large town with its maze of roads and winding bye-lanes.

* Broadcast from A. I. R., Lucknow, on December 1, 1956.

In most Government organisations, and certainly in the Collectorate, we have first to abolish a large number of rules and regulations, and then we have to see that they do not spring up again, as they invariably tend to do.

Cost of Reorganisation

How much will reorganisation cost? There will be some additional expense in supplying more typewriters and other office machines, in upgrading the pay of a number of officials and so on. But all this will be more than met by savings. We can't yet say how much, but they may run into several lakhs of rupees a year. How will these savings be effected and will anyone be thrown out of employment? There will be savings because the work will be simplified and less staff will be required to do it, but no one will be thrown out of employment. Surplus staff will be absorbed in vacancies in the Collectorates and other Government Departments as they occur. Till then they will be employed in the Collectorate itself in putting its vast accumulation of papers in order : by destroying those which have no utility, and rearranging the rest in a methodical manner.

Case For Decentralisation

Why do too many rules and regulations tend to spring up like weeds? The answer to this is the most important and interesting fact which came to light. Essentially it is because of lack of trust. This is true of all Governments throughout the world. In India it was worse than in other non-Communist countries, because the British felt, quite naturally, that they could never trust us as much as one of themselves. Now, however, strenuous efforts are being made everywhere to reverse this tendency. Even in communist countries where centralisation is almost an article of faith, considerable attempts at decentralisation are being made. In fact when the Russian leaders came here they remarked that they trusted their subordinates more than we did. Some concrete results of this subconscious lack of trust are : the prescription of enormous numbers of returns, numerous registers in which every movement of every paper is watched, hampering checks on expenditure, and the constant narrowing of the field in which the Collector and his subordinates can act without reference to superior authority.

Collectors' Tasks

Does this really make the Collector powerless? In fact it does not but it confuses officials and the public alike. If there are too many orders they cannot possibly be all obeyed. One instance may make this clear. In 1955 one Collector received 20,000 written orders from 116 authorities. This excludes standing orders and those conveyed orally. Another instance: every Collector has to be conversant with and to consult 124 Manuals in the course of his duties. Everyone who has seen how busy a Collector is, particularly in a large district, can judge whether it is possible for him to do all that he is expected to. Members of the public are equally affected. How often has one gone to an office and been told that a simple request cannot be granted because of some rule or other, or that it will take several months?

All this must be put an end to: but will the removal of restraints increase the danger of malpractices? This has been given considerable thought by a number of senior administrators, and they feel that it will not. There are many reasons for this. The two main ones are that human beings respond beneficially if they are well treated, and that superior officers can exercise better control, and do more work themselves if rules and regulations are cut down.

Need For Trust

Reorganisation on these lines will not be very difficult, because it is the Government's will and expressed policy that everyone, including all ranks of its servants, must be trusted to the maximum of their capacity. Of course, there will be certain difficulties at the executive level, in first stopping and then reversing the momentum of centuries. But these difficulties can be overcome with time, persistence and good will.

Bombay Corporation: As Seen By Mr. S. K. Patil

Mr. S. K. Patil, M.P., ex-Mayor of Bombay Municipal Corporation, speaking on "Bombay Corporation" in the Delhi Town Hall on November 16, expressed his firm opinion that unless local self-government in India was made strong and more solid, the edifice of Parliament could not be sustained for long. Mr. Patil asked the people wishing well of this country to lay a firm foundation of local self-government if they wanted a good and stable Government. The people in this country, he said, had not learnt the art of administration. People did not reach Parliament by stages but jumped "like monkeys". He wanted political leaders to reach Parliament by stages; a successful corporator should automatically be moved to the State Assembly and later to Parliament.

Mr. Patil said that Bombay Corporation had managed its water supply quite efficiently and there was no complaint of pollution of water as in Delhi. The Bombay Corporation spent crores of rupees to make its water supply purer and managed the supply in a scientific manner. He suggested Delhi should follow it.

Best In The Country

Mr. Patil said the Bombay pattern of municipal corporation was the best in the country. That system had endured for many years and every year that passed made it brighter. Bombay was a large, sized Corporation with a huge budget and population. Its income exceeded Rs. 25 crores—more than those of many States individually.

Mr. S. K. Patil, who was thrice Mayor of Bombay Corporation, came to Bombay for the first time in 1918 for his matriculation examination. His contact with the Bombay Municipal Corporation came early in 1935, when he contested the Municipal election in Bombay and won it. Mr. Patil, in a talk from the A. I. R. on July 20 on "As I look back", said that he had contested scores of elections in his life to all manner of places, but never had he that election thrill which the first Municipal election gave him. In those years, Congress in the city lacked confidence to run candidates on its own official ticket lest they should lose. Some good congressmen were chosen to run on their individual responsibility. So did he run on his own and luckily got in, he added.

Pherozshah Mehta's Work

Mr. Patil had also said: "From the day I entered the Corporation, I began to admire the work which Sir Pherozshah Mehta and his contemporaries had left behind. It was difficult in those days of British rule, to have a local body completely independent of Government pressure. But it must be acknowledged in sheer gratefulness that Sir Pherozshah Mehta had managed to secure for the Corporation a measure of independence unknown in those days anywhere else. For generations to come, the citizens of Bombay will have to acknowledge this fact and be grateful for it."

Corporation For Delhi

Mr. R. N. Aggarwal, President of the Delhi Municipal Committee, said this was the fifth meeting of the forum on public administration. Ambassadors of Britain, Germany, Sweden and Japan had already addressed the forum and expressed their views on public administration.

Mr. Aggarwal said it might take one year to establish a Corporation in Delhi. He expressed the hope that the drawbacks of several civic bodies now in existence would be removed by the proposed Corporation.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, who presided, asked people to co-operate with the proposed corporation to make Delhi beautiful.

Special Representation For Labour

A convention organised by the Delhi Committee of the All-India Trade Union Congress, adopted a resolution intoroduced by Mr. A.C. Nanda, Communist member of the Delhi Municipal Committee, requesting the Government of India to reserve four seats for labour in the proposed Corporation for Delhi.

Shortage of Medical Personnel In India

Inaugurating the International Seminar at the National Y. W. C. A. in New Delhi on November 10, the Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, said that the health policy of a Government was an instrument of its larger social policies and progress in all social spheres must necessarily act and react on one another. Until ignorance and poverty were overcome, she said, health standards would remain below the optimum, no matter how much attention was paid to them, She, however, added that the efforts put in during the last few years had been rewarded with encouraging results.

One Doctor For 50,000 Persons

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur referred to the shortage of trained personnel and of institutional and other physical facilities required for health work in India.

On an average, there was only one doctor for less than 6,000 persons. But these doctors were largely concentrated in towns and cities, which left only one doctor for as many as 30,000 to 50,000 persons living in the villages.

Communicable diseases, she said, continued to be a major public health problem, although they no longer caused the havoc they used to.

The National Malaria Control Programme, she added, was now being converted into an eradication programme, so that the disease might be stamped out altogether.

Tuberculosis was another menace to public health and the Government had realised that any anti-tuberculosis programme could never succeed if sole dependence was upon providing adequate institutional facilities. The Health Minister said that it was hoped that by the end of the Second Plan period every district would be served by at least one up-to-date T. B. clinic. For this purpose at least 300 clinics would either be set up or the existing ones brought up to the modern standard.

Environmental Sanitation

The Health Minister further observed that the problem of environmental sanitation was closely linked with the problem of communicable diseases. Any progress in one was not likely to be lasting unless it was sustained by a *pari passu* improvement in the other.

The National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, therefore, occupied a key position in the health plan for the next five years and nearly 25 per cent of our total expenditure on health plans was to be incurred on this.

In Rural Areas

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur declared that the various national health programmes were largely being implemented in the rural areas. A network of rural health centres was being set up for carrying out combined curative and preventive services in the villages. About 3,000 of such centres were proposed to be established by the end of the Second Plan, each centre serving over 50,000 persons.

Population Control

The problem of population control, she said, was being tackled mainly from the health point of view. She hoped that a general adoption of family planning methods would reduce the infantile and maternal mortality which was very high at present.

Complete Eradication of Malaria

The Union Deputy Minister of Health, Mrs. M. Chandrasekhar, informed the Lok Sabha on November 25 that the Government had accepted in principle, the ultimate goal adopted by the ninth session of the regional committee of the WHO, of eradication of malaria in as short a period as possible.

The programme, in two Plan periods, would cost Rs. 63.24 crores. During the second Plan period, the Government would spend Rs. 13.37 crores. The contribution from the Technical Co-operation Mission would be Rs. 7.09 crores, including equipment.

Social Medicine

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, India's Health Minister, inaugurating the fourteenth session of the Bombay Medical Congress on November 25 said that medical education should attach adequate importance to the consideration of a patient's social milieu in the study of his ailment.

Having realised the importance of the study of social medicine, the Health Minister said, high priority had been given to the establishment of departments of social and peventive medicine in colleges.

Medical Research

The Governor of Mysore, presiding over the inaugural meeting of the Indian Council of Medical Research in Mysore on November 16, declared that "no plan of national development can ever forge ahead without the basic requirement of good health of the people".

Mr. V. K. B. Pillai, Secretary of the Union Ministry of Health and Vice-President of the Indian Council of Medical Research, who inaugurated the meeting said medical research should be concerned not merely with the study of diseases of man but also with the study of factors that promoted his mental and physical well-being. Mr. Pillai said next to malaria, tuberculosis constituted the greatest single hazard to public health in the country. Two projects—one to deal with the survey of tuberculosis in different parts of the country and the other to control clinical trial with chemotherapeutic and antibiotic agents in the treatment of tuberclosis patients in their home environment—had already been initiated in the second Five-Year Plan, he added.

B. C. G. To Continue

The Union Health Minister, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, informed the Rajya Sabha on November 21 that the Government do not share the view that the theory on which the B.C.G. vaccination campaign was based has proved to be fallacious. She said that the Government's attention had been drawn to an article entitled "B.C.G.—a drug that failed" by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari as published recently.

More T. B. Beds in Bombay

Mr. P. R. Nayak, Municipal Commissioner, told the Standing Committee of Bombay corporation on November 27 that about a hundred additional beds would be shortly available in the city for tuberculosis patients. Mr. Nayak estimated the minimum requirements of the city at 2,000 beds for tuberculosis patients, of which 1,000 have to be for advanced cases. He expected that 300 more beds would be available during the next budget year. At present there are 560 beds.

Mr. Nayak stated that the population of Bombay city as on July 1 last was 34.5 lakhs.

More Hospital Beds in Delhi

At present there are 3,879 beds in the hospitals including maternity homes and dispensaries in Delhi. It is proposed to add 2,685 more beds in the existing and new hospitals during the second Five-Year Plan period.

Surat Children's Health

Only 17 per cent of the children up to the age of five years in the city of Surat are healthy and free from any disease, while the rest are suffering from one or more diseases, according to the result of a sample survey conducted by the Surat branch of the All-India Women's Conference.

Health Services in Kashmir

The Kashmir Government has approved the scheme for reorganisation of the Public Health Services in the State and to bring it in line with the rest of India. According to the scheme, a civil surgeon will be posted in each district of Jammu and Kashmir, including Ladakh. Each district will be provided with a 30-bed hospital which will be self-contained with full facilities for conducting major and minor operations. The scheme also provides for a Director of Health Services and two Deputy Directors — one for Jammu and the other for Kashmir — who will be allowed private practice.

UNICEF's Tenth Birthday

UNICEF, established in 1946, celebrated its 10th birthday on December 11 this year.

Throughout the world, more than two out of every three children are handicapped, sometimes die, from privation. Because of this, the United Nations has set up an agency just for children—the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Harjinder is one of 98,000,000 children tested for tuberculosis in India through a UNICEF-*aided campaign.*

Colour in Food Products

In India, lately, the problem of colour in food products has been engaging the attention of Health Authorities. The problem here has acquired particular importance and urgency because of the wide-spread use of unauthorised dyes in colouring food products.

Food presented in an attractive form, no doubt, adds to the pleasure of eating. In Nature itself, colour in vegetables and fruits is often associated with quality. The green of peas, orange of oranges and the pale red of meat have always carried the promice of culinary delight. Moreover, the practice of colouring food to make it look attractive has persisted with civilisation and its accompanying artifice.

However, until the advent of synthetic colours in recent times, only products of animal, vegetable, or mineral origin were utilized for colouring food. These colours were harmless in character and consequently gave rise to no danger. It is with the introduction of synthetic dyes, some of which are known to contain matter injurious to human organism, that the practice of colouring food took on the complexion of a serious problem from the point of view of public health. Need arose for determining the inoccuousness or otherwise of dyes, and for preventing the use of harmful dyes in food products.

Public Health Authorities in leading countries of the world took up the matter. A couple of international conventions were called, under the auspices of organisations like the W. H. O. and the F. A. O., at which an attempt was made to co-ordinate research into the nature of dyes most commonly in use, and to draw up an internationally acceptable list of authorised dyes for food products.

In India, a specially constituted Food Advisory Committee examined the whole question in detail, and published a report, which for general guidance listed certain dyes that alone were found suitable for colouring food. A little later, legislation authorising the use these dyes for colouring purpose was passed by the Indian Parliament. Efforts are now in the main being directed towards evolving a suitable machinery for preventing the use of unauthorised dyes in food products.

Best Malaria Control Unit

East Khandesh in Bombay State has been awarded the 1955-56 shield for being the best malaria control unit in the country, by the National Malaria Society of India. Mysore district had won the shield last year.

Water Supply Plans In Second Plan

In the second Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 23 crores has been provided by the States in their plans for urban water supply and drainage schemes. The Central Government has earmarked a sum of Rs. 30 crores, in addition, to be distributed as loan to the States for urban water supply and drainage schemes. A special provision of Rs. 10 crores for granting loans towards water supply and drainage schemes to Corporations has also been made by the Centre.

For rural water supply and sanitation schemes, while the States have provided Rs. 28 crores, the Centre will make available a matching contribution equivalent to 50 per cent of the cost of schemes sanctioned under this programme.

A Central Public Health Engineering Organisation has also been established to help in the implementation of water supply and drainage schemes.

Water Resoucres Development Centre

U.P.'s Finance and Power Minister, Mr. Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim, delivering the convocation address at the Roorkee Engineering University, said that the establishment of the Water Resources Development Training Centre at the University was an outstanding achievement of recent years. The Centre, which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister in November, 1955, was open to engineers from all over Asia and Africa. The first batch of trainees consisted of three Chinese, two Egyptians, two Vietnamese, four Indians, two Philippinees and one student each from Pakistan, Japan, Burma and Ceylon. The entire expenditure on the Centre was being met by the Government of India, aided by the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and the United Nations Technical Co-operation Mission.

Recruitment of staff for this Centre, however, had proved a difficult problem, as most of the likely candidates were holding key posts. It was hoped that it would be possible to make the "bulk of recruitment" by the end of this year.

Mr. Ibrahim revealed that the building construction programme of the University alone would cost something like Rs. 40 lakh as under the Second Five-Year Plan.

Rs. 10 Crore For Water Supply and Sanitation in U. P.

U.P.'s Minister for Local Self-Government, Mr. Ali Zaheer, informed the Local Self-Government Standing Committee at its meeting in Lucknow on October 31 that an additional sum of Rs. 4.70 crores has been sanctioned by the Union Government for U. P. for urban water supply and sanitation schemes during the Second Plan period. The State Government, he added, will now be in a position to execute water supply and sanitation projects in urban as well as rural areas to the tune of Rs. 10 crores during the Second Plan. Out of this, Rs. 4 crores will be spent on water supply schemes in rural areas.

The committee reviewed the works completed during the First Plan under which 63 schemes — construction of waterworks in 33 towns, reorganisation of 14 existing water-works, construction of drainage in eight towns and reorganisation of the existing drainage in another eight towns were taken up and almost completed.

Rs. 60 Lakhs Weir at Agra

In order to bring water near the Taj at Agra, the proposal to construct a weir on the Yamuna at a cost of nearly Rs. 60 to 70 lakhs was under consideration of the U. P. Government. The Local Self-Government Engineering Department had been asked whether it could take up this work.

Orissa Water Supply and Drainage Schemes

Orissa Government have made plans for a Rs. 53 lakhs sewage scheme and Rs. 153 lakhs for a drainage scheme for Cuttack, subject to the Centres' approval. The Government of India having allotted only Rs. 55 laks

for water supply in the State, the State Government have asked the the Centre for increased grants. For the towns of Puri, Baripada, Deogarh and Berhampore Orissa Government have drawn up schemes for improvement of water supply estimated to cost Rs. 110 lakhs.

Pipe Factory In Kerala

The acting Governor of Kerala, Mr. P. S. Rau, on November 13 formally opened the Pre-stressed Concerete Water-pipe Factory as Neendakara near Quilon. The factory will supply pipes and accessories needed for the water supply scheme of the Neendakara fishing project area, as also the nearby Quilon municipal town. Mr. D. H. Lund, Director of the Indo-Norwegian project, welcoming the Governor, hoped that the water supply scheme would remain a "symbol of the happy co-operation between Norway and the great republic of India".

Exploration of Groundwater Resources

The Geological Survey of India has undertaken the ever largest single enterprise in the world—groundwater exploration in an area of about 5,44,000 sq. miles in the country.

Drawn up in consultation with the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the programme is being implemented with the mutual co-operation of Governments of India and the United States. The Government of India under the agreement will spend Rs. 120,00,000 and the U. S. Government 4,05,000 dollars.

The Exploratory Tubewells Organisation of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture will carry out the drilling operation and the Geological Survey will advise the technical aspects of drilling, and will be responsible for the collection, analysis and interpretation of the geological and hydrological data, and for the preparation and release of technical reports.

A new Section called Groundwater Exploration Section has been set up in the Geological Survey of India since April 1954.

Losses From Corrosion of Water Pipes

According to the Chief Maintenance Engineer of the Water Supply Services of the Jewish Agency Settlement Department, 12 million's worth of damage is caused by corrosion of water pipes every year, equivalent to a loss of 25,000 tons of pipes annually. In order to cut down these losses the new system of cathode charges is to be introduced. This system, which has proved itself successful in the U. S. A., is based on the fact that corrosion of the pipes is an electro-chemical process, and by counter-charging the pipes the corrosion can be prevented. It is estimated that there are now some half a million tons of metal piping in use in Israel, of which more than half is used by agriculture.

Ocean To Be Fresh Water Source In Ten Years

Fresh water from the ocean, which will be cheap enough for drinking and for industrial and irrigation use, will be here within 10 years. This prediction is made by professor Everett D. Howe, director of the University of California's salt water conversion project, which has been working for some time on the problem of converting salt water to fresh water.

Studies made to date indicate that already, by means of one process being experimeted with, fresh water can be produced from sea water at a cost of about 100 dollar per acre-foot, Professor Howe said. An acre-foot is a volume of water equal to the volume of a prism one foot high with a base one acre in area. It contains 43,560 cubic feet, or 1,233.5 cubic meters. Professor Howe said that cities now pay as much as 125 dollars an acre-foot of water, and as low as 30 dollars, depending on their location. He said that the cheapest of several conversion methods now being developed is one known as "low temperature difference" distillation. In this process, warm sea water is evaporated at low pressure and passed through a turbine to produce power and become fresh.

The University of California research and experimental work has been going on since 1952. It is designed to supplement work in the same field that is being done by the United States Government.

Delhi's Rs. 9 Crore Sewage Projects

Delhi's Chief Commissioner, Mr. A. D. Pandit, on November 22 laid the foundation stone of the West Delhi sewage treatment plant on a 50-acre plot at Keshopur, behind Tilak Nagar. The building of the plant is expected to be completed in 18 months and will cost Rs. 72 lakhs. Besides this, Rs. 1 crore will be spent at laying sewer lines in 30 townships on or near Najafgarh Road, the Industrial Colony and Delhi Cantonment. The plant will serve an area of 19,000 acres.

The Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board proposes to spend about Rs. 9 crores on sewage projects. The West Delhi plant will be the third of its kind, the other two being the Okhla and the Coronation plants. The latter will start working in February, while the capacity of the Okhla plant is to be raised from 36 million gallons to 70 million gallons daily after two years.

The threat of contamination to Delhi's water supply will be eliminated when the Coronation and West Delhi plants are commissioned as they will reduce the Najafgarh Nullah, the over-flow from which is the cause of the pollution, to the storm water drain it originally was.

The West Delhi plant will be fed by three trunk sewers from Patel Nagar, the Cantonment and the Najafgarh Nullah. It will treat a flow of 12 million gallons daily and serve a population of 300,000.

The plant, which will be modern, will have a pumping station, mechanically operated screens, units for the removal of heavy inorganic matter such as sand and grit and organic matter like sludge. There will be provision for sewage digestion units and production of sewage gas which will be used for the generation of electricity in case adequate power is not available from Nangal. The "purified sewage" will be enough to fertilize 2,000 acres.

Besides the plants, the Board is installing a sewer between Delhi Gate and the junction of Ring Road near the Friends Colony on Mathura Road which will take in the excess sewage. In areas which cannot be connected with the sewage system, small local purification plants are proposed to be installed. But these schemes will be taken up after the plants are ready.

Sewage Gas To Be Manufactured

The Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board has also suggested to the administration that cheap sewage gas, which will be a by-product of the Coronation plant, be used by heavy motor vehicles instead of petrol. Gas equivalent to one gallon of petrol will cost one rupee as against the price of a gallon of petrol of Rs. 2/14/-. The plant is expected to produce 400,000 cu. ft. of gas daily which will be equal to 2,000 gallons of petrol. The sewage gas from the Coronation plant is not likely to be used as domestic fuel, as is done in Bombay, because conditions in the areas of North Delhi served by the plant are not suitable for this purpose.

Bombay To Produce More Sewage Gas

Bombay Municipal Corporation on November 26 passed a resolution suggesting to the Works Committee to formulate a scheme for the production of sewage gas for domestic and industrial use. The resolution made a strong plea for the proper utilisation of sewage gas which was being allowed to go waste at present. Dr. R. N. Kulkarni, the mover, said that if the entire sewage in the city was put to use it would produce 1,200,000 cubic feet of gas per day as against only 1,60,000 cubic feet produced at present by the municipal gas plants. He was of the opinion that on the basis of 100 cubic feet of gas consumption per family per day, the sewage gas produced would be enough for 12,000 families. Besides, the by-products would increase municipal revenue by Rs. 29 lakhs per year.

Sewage Utilisation Schemes in U.P.

For U.P.'s sewage utilisation schemes, Mr. Ali Zaheer, the L. S. G. Minister, disclosed

(Continued on next page)

National Seminar On Slum Clearance

A National Seminar on Slum Clearance, organised by the Indian, Conference of Social Work, will be held at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay, in the second week of May, 1957.

Mr. P. R. Nayak, Municipal Commissioner, Bombay, is the director of the Seminar and will be assisted by Mr. B. K. Chandiwala of the Bharat Sevak Samaj. Delhi, as associate director.

According to the provisional programme, there will be eight plenary session addresses and five working groups on the following subjects: (a) Social aspects of slum dwelling. (b) minimum housing standards, (c) positive steps for prevention of slums, (d) integrated plan for slum clearance, and (e) examination of slum clearance projects in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Kanpur and Ahemdabad.

One of the main objectives of the Seminar, is to study the problem of slums and slum dwellings from a scientific point of view, evaluate the current efforts to meet the problem and make some concrete suggestions and evolve a suitable method of approach to the problem under the prevailing conditions.

Mr. P. R. Nayak has pointed out that the Seminar would be representative of all those concerned with the problem such as Municipal Corporations. Town Planners, Chief Executive Officers, social workers and scientists, employers and property owners and trade unions.

(Continued from previous page)

that the Union Govt. had approved an allotment of Rs. 58.5 lakhs for the scheme to begin with for the Second Plan on condition that this amount was found from the ceilling fixed for the State's agriculture sector. The matter would be finalised shortly and thereafter it could be decided as to how many sewage utilisation schemes could be taken up during the Second Plan period, he added.

The financial assistance in the shape of loan provided by the Union Government for the sewage utilisation schemes in Kanpur, Lucknow, and Allahabad during the First Plan amounted to Rs. 54,43,000.

Calcutta Sewage Gas

According to a scheme, prepared with the help of German experts, about 1.5 million cubic ft. of gas can be generated from the sewage per day in Calcutta. The scheme envisages production of gas by subjecting the sewage to fermentation at Bantola. The total outlay of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 2 crores. The Plan will generate 35 crore c. ft. of gas annually which is equivalent to 17.5 lakh gallons of petrol. Besides 90,000 tons of sludge will be available for manure. The scheme has been included in the second Five-Year Plan for implementation.

Slum Clearance in Second Plan

Slum clearance in large towns is to be a top priority activity in the second Five Year Plan period. The first systematic effort at eliminating these plague spots is being taken in Delhi under the supervision of the special development authority that has been constituted for the purpose, and about a dozen slum clearance schemes have been sponsored. The Prime Minister's personal interest in this matter has accelerated the progress of the movement.

The problem in this respect is not merely one of getting rid of existing slums; it is also one of making it impossible for new slums to come into existence. For preventing growth of slums, the Planning Commission has suggested two sets of measures to be taken. In the first place municipal bye-laws must be enforced with the utmost strictness; secondly, master plans should be approved for every town beginning with towns which are already large and have expanded largely in recent years or are likely to grow rapidly in the next few years. For implementing the master

plans required, the authorities should have requisite powers to execute zoning schemes, control the use of land and prevent ribbon development.

With regard to the problem of existing slums the main remedy is their demolition and clearance. In this process it would be necessary to acquire some of the slums. Slum-dwellers have to be moved to distant places and funds have to be provided for subsidizing construction of houses so that they can be let out to slum-dwellers at rates which they can afford to pay. These aspects have been kept in mind by the Central Government in evolving the new schemes and a total provision of Rs. 20 crores has been made in the second Five Year Plan to carrry out the schemes.

Capital Slum Clearance Projects

In a statement laid on the table of the Lok Sabha on November 20 the Union Health Minister said that the Interim General Plan for Delhi contemplated the following projects in regard to slum clearance during the second Five-Year Plan period:—Acquisition and development of 600 acres of land for slaughter house and ancillary trades, development of a township for the purpose including building of about 2,000 residences for the persons engaged in the trade construction of a slaughter house and other factories for ancillary purposes;

Resettlement of "gowalas" and their cattle and for this purpose acquisition and development of 400 acres of land, building of 1,600 tenements, 1,600 cattle byres and provision of other community centres, etc., for the purpose;

Slum cleaning and improvement of most of the slum "katras" and other slum areas.

Slum rehousing which involves construction of 3,000 houses for slum dwellers: and acquisition of slum properties measuring about 500 acres of land.

On the completion of these projects some of the worst slums in Delhi would be removed. Necessary amenities such as water taps, lavatories and drainage, would be provided in all the areas where there were none at present the statement added.

A new section has been organised in the Health Ministery under Mr. S. G. Bose Mullick as Joint-Secretary. This section will handle the work of clearance of slums in the Capital, plan the development programme of Delhi and also look to the development of panchayats all over the country with a view to co-ordinating their activities vis-a-vis other local bodies.

No Trans-planting of Population

Mr. S. N. Mishra, Deputy Minister for Planning, replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 27 said the Government of India have at present no major schemes for trans-plánting population in order to relieve congestion in densely populated areas. He added there were schemes in the plans of the States which were calculated to help densely populated areas. The schemes included proposals relating to village and small industries, colonisation, land distribution, extension of irrigation facilities, rural and small town electrification, development of towns, etc.

Andhra Slum Improvement Bill

The President has given his assent to the Andhra Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1956. Promoted with a view to eradicate slums, the Bill provides for the acquisition, on payment of compensation at certain prescribed rates, of private lands on which slums exist. The Andhra Government found that their efforts to remove slums from private areas were thwarted by the unwillingness of the owners of those lands to carry out improvements which were costly. The only alternative left for the Government was to acquire such lands and provide the amenities themselves. This was, however, not feasible as the compensation payable under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, or the Madras Town Planning Act, 1920, was prohibitive. The present Bill provides for the acquistion of such slum areas on payment of 12 times the net average annual income actually derived from such land during the preceding five years.

Madras Plans for Rs. 7. 35 Crore Schemes

Madras Government have drawn up proposals involving an expenditure of Rs 7.35 crores under the Second Five-Year Plan for slum clearance and rehabilitation of slum-dwellers in certain selected urban centres of the State.

The Government have made it clear that they will implement their slum-clearance scheme only with reference to existing slums and that slums that may spring up thereafter will be liquidated according to law without extending the benefits of rehabilitation to the concerned slum dwellers. A Government Press Note issued on November 20 said that all slums that may spring up after this date will be cleared without providing alternative accommodation. The vesting of necessary powers in the hands of representatives of all departmants for the summary eviction of such slum-dwellers and prevention of unauthorised hutments was under the consideration of the Government.

Slum Dwellers' Conference

Madras Government have approached the Central Government for a grant of Rs. 4.5 crores to implement schemes for slum clearance and provision of housing for backward classes in the State, according to a statement made by Mr. B. Parameswaran, Minister for Harijan Welfare, opening the South Madras Slum Dwellers' conference in Madras City on November 18.

Mr. Rajam Ramaswamy, who presided over the conference, said that Government should implement the Land Acquisition Act passed by the Rajaji Ministry to acquire private lands to provide alternative dwellings to the slum dwellers. Government must guide and help the City Improvement Trust in clearing slums in the city. He described the great hardships experienced by slum dwellers who had no sanitary or water facilities. The conference by a resolution requested the Corporation of Madras to provide sanitary and other facilities to slum dwellers of the city.

Rajaji's Complaint

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, India's former Governor General, said in Madras on November 19 that Government should take over private lands on which huts had sprung up, improve them and provide amenities to the hut dwellers so that the general sanitation of the City might not suffer. He said there was already an Act. on the Statute Book empowering Government to take these steps, but it appeared to have been ignored.

Mr. Rajagopalachari said that the people were lacking in civic sense. They thought that the only house in which they live was their own but not the surroundings and they felt free to misuse them. It was in these conditions that diseases multiplied and the Corporation, which lacked means to provide roads, etc., quickly was called upon to provide a dispensary.

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Bhubaneshwar: A Planned Capital City

When Mr. H. K. Mahtab and Mr. C. M. Trivedi were the Chief Minister and Governor of Orissa, respectively, Bhubaneshwar, located on a plateau, adjacent to the old town of Bhubaneshwar with its imposing Lingraj temple, was chosen to be the capital of Orissa. Cuttack, the former capital was found to be too congested to be the capital of a modern State. The capital has already taken shape though much still remains to be done. The Secretariat, the Assembly building and the Raj Bhavan are still to be completed. Major part of the Secretariat is still housed in the Accountant General's building.

With the return of Dr. Mahtab to Orissa as its Chief Minister the work on the new Capital is likely to be taken in hand with greater vigour.

A draft Master Plan for the improvement of Cuttack was also prepared, by Mr. V.C. Mehta, but very little progress so far has been made in its implementation.

A Town Planning Bill is, however, stated to be in hand.

Planned Development of Bhopal

The Madhya Pradesh Govt. has appointed an Expert Committee for the planned development of Bhopal, the capital of the new State. The report, to be submitted within a month, will contain recommendations about sites for new construction—both private and Government. Building labour and materials prices have shot up in Bhopal.

The State Government has dropped an earlier proposal for having an aerial survey of the city before preparing the plan for its development.

Bombay Town Planning Bill

Bombay Legislative Assembly on November 28 repassed a Bill to remove doubts and to establish the validity of certain proceedings taken in connection with certain town planning schemes in the city of Bombay.

Importance of Village Planning

The Punjab Governor, Mr. C. P. N. Singh, on October 14 called upon town planners to devote as much attention to village planning as to the planning of towns. In a farewell address to the delegates who attended the seminar on Town Planning convened by the Institute of Town Planners of India, in Chandigarh he said: "Villages need cleanliness. good roads, a healthy community life, electricity, easy transport, reasonable arrangements for education and medical attendence, no less than towns.

"They need to be kept in good shape if we wish to prevent a mad rush to the towns, and if we wish to make it possible for an educated man to return to his village with hopes of leading a decent and dignified life".

He pointed out that if villages were not properly planned 80 percent of India would remain in chaotic conditions.

In towns, he said one had often to strike a compromise between "what Nature gave us and what man has made of it and not infrequently this is attended by quite a few necessary evils", In villages, on the other hand, one could generally achieve "a happy adjustment with the balance mostly in our favour".

The peculiar characteristics of village life were therefore "precious and worth preserving".

"However there is no need to hug the old feeling that people who live in towns are the heaven-borns and all our efforts to provide amenities should be diverted to them alone. Villages need as much attention as towns, though in their own way", he said.

City Slums

On the Problem of slum clearance, the Governor said: "A slum in a city is like cancer in a human body. Slowly but surely it eats into the vitals till life becomes extinct. We have therefore, to cure our cities of these slum for the sake of our very existence. We have also to ensure that there are no slums in future".

India's Largest Conference Building

Built to accommodate large national and international conferences, the Vigyan Bhawan, in which the 9th UNESCO session opened in New Delhi on November 5, can seat 700 delegates and 300 visitors. It has many unique features. But the style and feature of the main entrance, designed in the tradition of Buddhist architecture, is perhaps the most striking.

Constructed on a plot measuring 3.8 acres, within a mile of the Union Government's Secretariat, the three-storey structure with furniture and fittings, has been completed at a cost of approximately Rs. 79 lakhs. Its three functional units consist of the Auditorium, eight committee and commission rooms, lounges and cafeterias and an annexe for offices.

Apart from the air-conditioning and sound systems, the material used is entirely indigenous. The plush carpets have come from Jaipur, Agra and Gwalior. Handloom products upholster the chairs and the architects, engineers and skilled workers were all Indian. The whole construction took 1,000 workers 350 days to complete.

Measuring 145 feet by 165 feet, the plenary hall provides chairs, desks and tables for 700 delegates and seats for 300 visitors in the balcony. The committee rooms, each 55 feet by 90 feet, will accommodate 50 delegates around horse-shoe tables and 24 observers. The two commission rooms can seat 270 persons.

The entire building is air-conditioned and maintains a temperature of 78 degrees Farenheit in summer and 70 degrees in winter.

The materials used in the construction of the building include 41,500 tons of cement, 2,000 tons of steel, 4 million bricks, 3 million c.ft. of stone ballast and 4 million c.ft. of sand.

According to Mr. K. S. Krishnaswami, the Chairman of the Construction Committee and Joint Secretary in the Works, Housing

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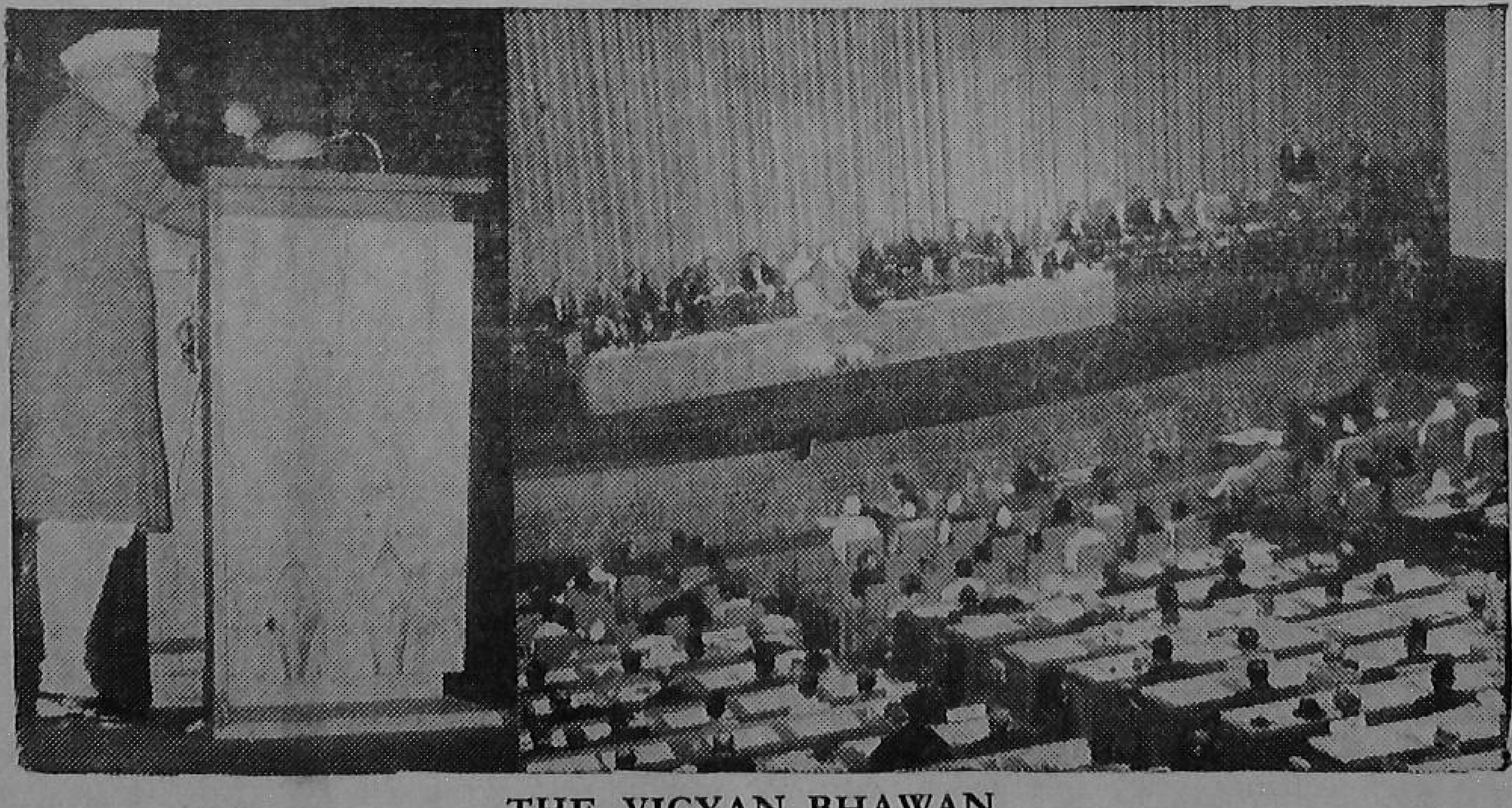

THE VIGYAN BHAWAN

The Prime Minister inaugurating the 9th Session of the General Conference of the U.N.E.S.C.O. at the Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, on November 5.

UNESCO's Six Million Dollar Home

The new headquarters, which are to replace UNESCO's temporary home in the Hotel Majestic, Paris, will consist of a seven-storey Y-shaped structure (the Secretariat building), containing 600 offices for an estimated staff of 1,200, a hall for plenary sessions, seven committee rooms, a restaurant, medical centre, etc., and of another building to be used as a conference hall, which will be able to accommodate more than 2,000 persons.

These buildings, which were begun in April 1954, will be completed early in 1957. They are located on a site offered by the French Government, on the left Bank of the Seine, near the Ecole Militaire and the Eiffel Tower.

Trio of Architects

The design of the headquarters is the work of an international trio of architects : Messrs. Bernard Zehrfuss (France), Pier Luigi Nervi (Italy), and Marcel Breuer (United States of America), who had the advice of a committee consisting of Messrs. Costa (Brazil), Gropius (United States of America), Le Corbusier (France), Markelius (Sweden) and Rogers (Italy). In their design, the architects conformed basically to the urban planning conceived in the eighteenth century by Jacques-Ange Gabriel, creator of the Ecole Militaire and its perspective.

The three prongs of the Y-shaped building meet in a central core housing the entrance hall. The total cost of the new headquarters wlll be about six million dollars. The French Government has provided an interest-free loan to that amount repayable over 30 years. Building materials have been ordered from 11 French firms, as well as from firms in Italy, Switzerland, Belgium and Great Britain.

The interior decoration of the headquarters—in which Member States have been asked to assist—began in August, 1956. Thanks to the Y-form of the building, each office will overlook Paris and there will be no windowless rooms ; each ceiling will be sound-proof and will slope up gradually until it meets a large window. The total area of the site is approximately 7.4 acres.

(*Continued from previous page*)

and Supply Ministry, the expeditious construction of the building was made possible by the "magnificent response" of architects, engineers and workmen. The Chief Engineer, Mr. J. M. Rajwani, was supported by a number of superintending and executive engineers from the Central Public Works Department.

Buildings Without Foundations

An experiment in constructing budilings over the sticky black cotton soil without any foundation has been succefully conducted by the Bhopal Public Works Department.

A Collector's bungalow, a high School and a boys' hostel have been built at Raisen in two years on the surface without an inch underground foundation.

Major Fahim Beg, Chief Enginner, who took the initiative, said that the buildings had not shown a single crack.

The new method considerably lowers the construction cost. It is of great importance to Bhopal and the entire Malwa region.

Union Government engineers recently changed the site of the heavy electrical equipment factory from Bairagarh to the out-skirts of Bhopal city because of the fear that the black cotton soil at Bairagarh would increase the construction cost.

The capillarity of the black soil makes construction difficult and buildings on it show up cracks as a result of heavy rainfall or after a particularly dry spell.

The usual method of construction is to dig a deep foundation—from 6 to 25 feet depending on the size of the building—till hard ground is reached.

Major Beg achieved this "sealing off" effect without going underground. He stacked 18-inch-high dry red sandstone on the ground in an area slightly bigger than the actual area under construction. The stack of moram was then watered and pressed with steamrollers to produce a solid surface capable of offsetting the capillary qualities of the underground black soil.

A concrete floor to the exact dimensions of the building was then laid on the moram and walls were raised over it.

Houses On Stilts: Safeguard Against Floods

A novel experiment in rural housing which the Punjab Government is undertaking may show the way to minimising the human suffering and colossal loss of property that the country experiences almost every year during the monsoon and flood season. All deputy Commissioners in the Punjab are being asked to make a concerted effort to persuade the people living in the State's extensive "bet" or riverain areas to build for themselves what may be described as "house on stilts." The idea for such houses was probably given by the young farmer in a Karnal village who, during the recent floods, erected a platform on four palm-tree stumps for his family and possessions. He was safe on the platform while swirling flood waters passed underneath for two days. By using palm stumps or other local materials, it should be possible for villagers, the authorities felt, to build their mud huts or thatched cottages with an elevation to allow water to pass beneath. The deputy commissioners have been directed to submit estimates for euch houses in areas which are exposed to floods. If necessary, the Government may erect a few houses in various villages as models. For some of the bigger villages, it is proposed to build pucca "safety towers" in which women and children may take shelter and farmers may store their provisions, medicines and seed.

Quake-proof Houses For Anjar

Minister for Revenue, Mr. Rasiklal Parikh, informed the Bombay Legislative Assembly on November 28 that new buildings to be constructed in Anjar (Kutch) would be quake-proof. Plans had been prepared by the State Government for "rebuilding Anjar town," the Minister stated. The damage owing to earth-quake in July was estimated at a crore of rupees. The total number of houses completely damaged was 3,581. The Government of India had sanctioned Rs. 20 laks for relief and the total amount of contributions received from private institutions and individuals was Rs. 9,05,143. The value of help received in kind, including galvanised sheets, was Rs. 7,04.985. Nine hundred tenements had been constructed in Anjar and a similar number in the neighbouring villages for housing people rendered homeless, the Minister stated.

Low Income Group Housing In U. P.

Mr. Ali Zaheer, U. P.'s Minister for Local Government, informed the State Vidhan Sabha on October 23 that it is proposed to build 5,675 houses under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme in U. P. during the Second Plan period. During the period 1,055 houses are also proposed to be built under the Subsidized Industrial Housing Scheme. The Minister added that Government had no intention of bringing forward a Housing Bill.

U. S. Home Building Forecast

More new homes for families in the U. S. will be built in the next quarter century than in any similar previous period, according to three economic experts.

The first systematic study of long-term trends in housing construction and its financing in the U. S., released on November 10 by the Princeton University Press, was made for the National Bureau of Economic Research and Columbia University's Institute for Urban Land Use and Housing Studies. The experts are Dr. Leo Grebler, Dr. David M. Blank, and Dr. Louis Winnick.

In the 10 postwar years of 1946-55, says the report, the annual average for home building was 1,043,000 or 49 precent more than an average of 700,000 dwellings in the nineteen twenties, the previous peak decade. The experts predict that the 1950 to 1975 period will see a bigger rise with a shortage of mortgage loans at present rates. The stimulus to the economy by the housing industry is thus predicted to continue according to the study, refuting dire predictions of Marx, Keynes and Lenin.

Schemes For Training Of Malis

Financial assistance to the States to the extent of 50 percent of cost of the training of Malis for a course of training extending over 6 months will be given under a scheme for the training of Malis included in the Second Five Year Plan.

This was disclosed today by Shri Ajit Prasad Jain, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, in a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha on November 27.

Schemes for the training of Malis, said Shri Jain, had been sanctioned in the States of Madras, Andhra, Pepsu (now merged with Punjab), Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Bharat, Bhopal (now merged with Madhya Pradesh), Himachal Pradesh and Coorg (now merged with Mysore). Schemes from Orissa, Bihar, and U. P. States were under consideration, he added.

Desert Afforestation in Rajasthan

The Desert Afforestation Research Station, Jodhpur, has been experimenting with methods of raising desert-thriving plants in its 11 nurseries and with various techniques of afforestation in rocky areas, shifting sands and grazing lands. Shelter-belt trees had been planted along 82 miles of roads, mainly on the Pokaran-Jaisalmer-Pali-Ajmer road and Pilani roads. The idea of creating a long belt of vegetation all along the border has been abandoned for the present.

Parks Maintained By Business Houses

Traffic Islands, including small parks, at seven important junctions in Madras city have been handed over by the Corporation to leading business houses to be maintained by them at their own cost.

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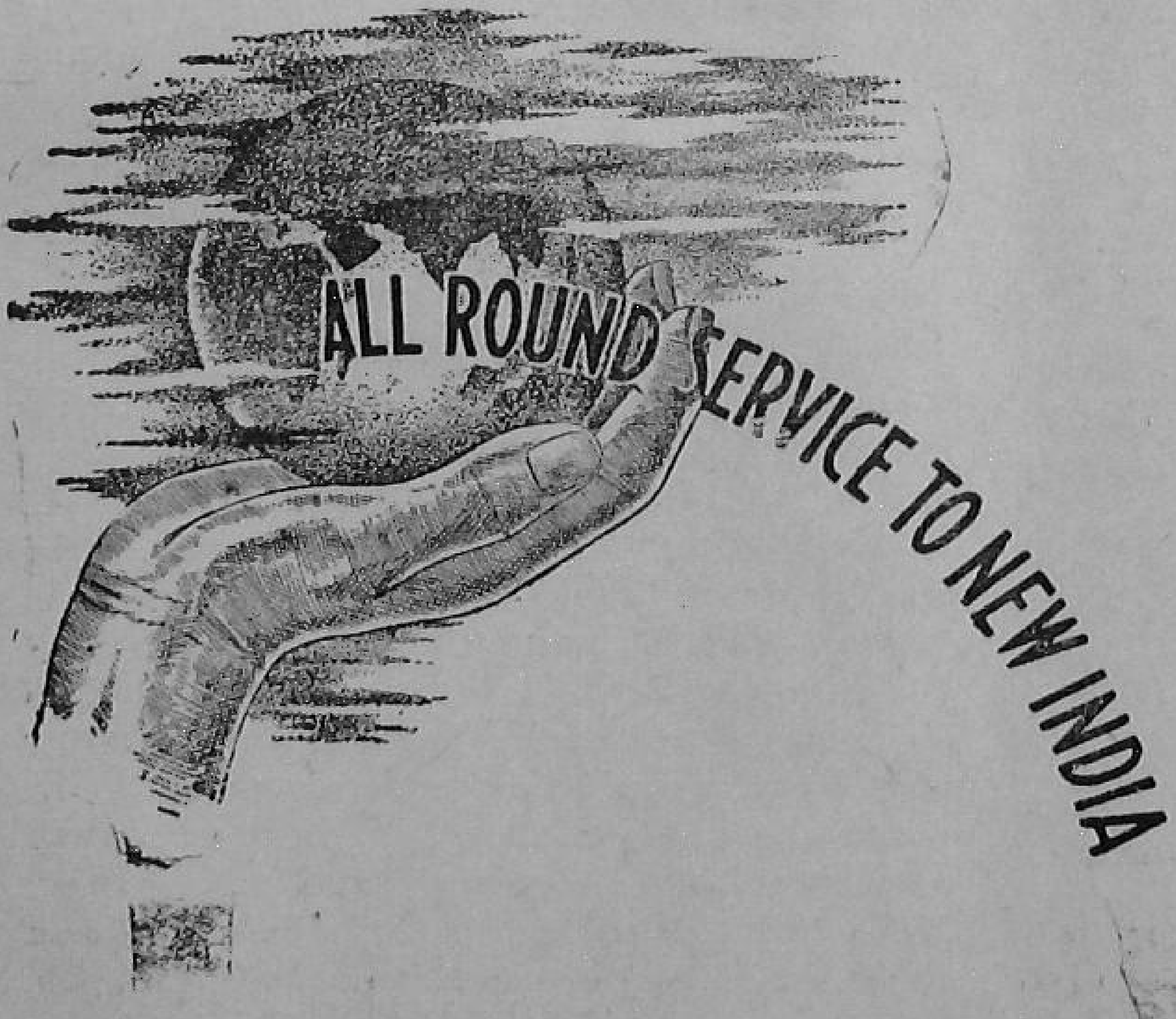

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Cheaper Stabilised-Soil Roads In India

In the Soils Division of the Central Road Research Institute, Delhi successful research work has been carried out to evolve methods that would bring down the cost of road construction to almost half of the cost of road construction with usual methods today. The method—stabilised soil roads—which has been evolved is applicable to a major percentage of our road development programme.

The Second Five Year Plan envisages construction of over 20,000 miles of metal road. With the cheapest method, the cost of road construction hitherto has been found to be approximately Rs. 35,000 per mile for the road crust alone. The method which has been evolved would bring down the cost to about Rs. 18,000 per mile and in the case of village roads, without surfacing, the cost would be no more than Rs. 10,000 per mile. With village volunteer labour the cost would be even further reduced to Rs. 3,000 a mile. Considering that the method evolved is applicable to most roads in India except in areas of very heavy rainfall, the adoption of the new method would effect a saving of many crores of rupees.

This type of construction will further provide employment to a far larger number of people than the conventional methods because the work is mostly labour.

The method consists of a scientific blending of local soils to produce a soil mixture which would be " stable " under changing weather and moisture conditions. This mixture, with the addition of a small percentage of locally available aggregate like brick ballast, kankar, moorum, etc. is compacted to maximise density by virtue of the addition of a pre-determined quantity of water, called optimum moisture. The surface is then given a usual bituminous treatment.

The Institute proposes to construct a few pilot roads, one to two miles each, in each State, within the current financial year. This would be followed by the Road Wing of the Transport Ministry building 30 to 50 miles of such roads in the States for demonstration purpose.

Such stabilised soil roads were built in the Punjab about eleven years ago to a total mileage of 280 miles under the supervision of the present Director of the Central Road Research Institute. They are still good after meeting heavy traffic conditions. Even so, the method of soil stabilisation has since been further improved at the Institute in the light of past experience.

Roads and Bridges in U. P.

The total sum available for the construction of roads and bridges in the State during the Second Five-Year Plan period has been raised to Rs. 17.30 crores. This is the result of the allocation of an additional amount of Rs. 1.16 crores having been diverted from the construction of buildings programme, where on account of non-availability of sufficient building materials, it is not possible to utilise efficiently the allotment under this head.

Uttar Pradesh with an area of 1,13,000 sq. miles had 11,000 miles of metalled and 25,000 miles of un-metalled roads in 1951, the road length per sq. mile of area coming to 0.3 mile. But as two-thirds of the roads were unable to bear traffic during the rains, the length per sq. mile of area was no more than 0.11 mile for all practical purposes. As against this, the United Kingdom had 2.02 miles, France 1.84 miles and Ceylon 0·7 miles.

According to the Star and Grid formula, the State should have 16,484 miles of metalled and 42,302 miles of unmetalled roads. At the beginning of the first Plan, the State was short of 7,000 miles of metalled and 17,000 miles of unmetalled roads. During the Plan period 923 miles of metalled and 631 miles of unmetalled roads were constructed, apart from the modernisation of old roads and completion of 25 bridges against a target of six. During the Second Plan, 2,178 miles of roads will be constructed and 1,560 miles of old roads will be improved. Besides, 535 miles of State highways and 865 miles of major district roads will be metalled. Eighty new bridges will also be constructed.

(*Continued on page* 56)

Faulty Traffic Planning Of Capital

A study of accidents and road users' behaviour, conducted by the Central Road Research Institute, has come to the conclusion that **Delhi, which should normally be a model in traffic planning, design and layout of roads, is, in fact, in this respect one of the worst cities in India.**

The accident statistics for Delhi the report says, warrant urgent attention so that suitable remedial measures can be adopted.

In 1955, the number of road accidents in Delhi was 1,179. Of these, 112 proved fatal. In 1948, the number of accidents was 281 in which 58 persons were killed.

Broadly speaking, the accident curves show three peak periods: the morning, the evening and the lunch hour.

About 53 percent of the accidents at intersections were among motor vehicles themselves and 28 percent between mechanically propelled vehicles and cycles. On the carriageways, about 45 percent of the accidents were among motor vehicles themselves and about 35 percent between mechanically propelled vehicles and cycles.

Cycle Traffic

The figures prove that cycle traffic on the main carriageways, even when the intensity of traffic is small, leads to a higher accident rate than when cycles are forbidden to use the main carriageway.

Pedestrians

Pedestrians, the results show, prefer the shortest course for crossing roads even if it involves a certain amount of risk.

In the morning, the percentage of pedestrians using the crossings showed improvement particularly when there were policemen standing near stoplines.

The study has also shown that the crossings are not easily visible. The markings disappear shortly after they have been painted.

The report suggests that the brakes of vehicles must be periodically inspected and that cyclists should be forced to travel on cycle tracks where this facility exists.

Road Accidents In October

The number of road accidents in Delhi in October was 102. They resulted in 61 people being injured and six, including four children, being killed. About 50 per cent, of the fatal accidents were caused by heavy transport vehicles. Two people were killed by cars and one by a motor-cycle rickshaw.

The respective figures for the previous year were: 101 accidents, 72 injured and 5 killed. These facts were given by Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Transport and Railways, in a statement laid on

A Delhi police jeep fitted with a V.H.F. wireless set. These mobile units are used for traffic control during crowd-gathering occasions.

the table of the Lok Sabha on November 15.

The Delhi traffic police are taking additional precautions to check accidents by motor vehicles. It has been proposed that all vehicles more than 10 years old should be inspected twice a year by an expert. Street lighting is also to be improved. A drive has also been launched against overloading of heavy vehicles by constant checking at the Jamuna Bridge and other places. Demonstrations on the correct use of the roads are also being organised in educational institutions in the city.

Offences Under Motor Vehicles Act

Delhi traffic police detected seventeen private cars plying as taxis in October. During the same month, 3,379 people were challaned under the Motor Vehicles Act and fines totalling Rs. 14,636 were realised from 960 of them. In the same month last year, 1,984 people were challaned under the Act. For over-speeding 158 owners of cars were challaned. Fines totalling Rs. 1,018 were collected from 64 of them. Cyclists paid fines totalling Rs. 2,101. Out of 2,389 challaned, only 548 gave correct addresses, the police complained.

Check on Children on Cycles

The Delhi Municipal Committee at its meeting on November 23 postponed consideration of the question whether children should be allowed to be carried on cycles. The House was equally divided on the question. A member expressed the view that if the amendment was approved, poor, children would suffer most. Others said that the proposed by-law would prevent accidents in Delhi.

Calcutta Road Accidents

Dr. B. C. Roy, West Bengal's Chief Minister, in a message on the occasion of the Safety First and Courtesy Week, which began in Calcutta on December 17, said: "It is a disquieting sign that, with the increase of vehicles on the roads, the number of accidents is mounting, particularly in the large cities. In Calcutta alone, during the first half of 1956, 95 persons were killed and 2,027 persons were injured as a result of road accidents. The Safety First Association of India is rendering a signal service to the nation by enjoining courtesy on the roads and educating pedestrians and users of the vehicles alike in the traffic rules."

Better Traffic Control in Calcutta

Since August 23 Calcutta Traffic Police have started a new scheme for controlling traffic jams, checking accidents and violations of traffic rules. A squad of motor cyclists patrols the city in the ten zones created for the purpose, from 6.30 A.M. to 9 P. M. These follow the wireless vans which move in the city for the prevention and detection of crime.

Mobile Courts For U.P. Towns

A meeting of the Civic Administrators of Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, and Allahabad and District Officers of Lucknow, presided over by the Local Self-Government Minister, Mr. Ali Zaheer, on September 28, discussed the problem of encroachments on municipal roads and pavements in the major towns of the State, particularly in Lucknow, and approved a scheme of mobile courts for Lucknow, to rid the city of unauthorised encroachments.

It was pointed out that unauthorised constructions on municipal roads and pavements were proving a serious menace to the safety of pedestrians and vehicular traffic and have often resulted in accidents. Unauthorised setting up of stalls etc. at odd places has also resulted in undermining sanitary conditions.

(*Continued from page* 54)

Bridges on National Highways

The Union Government have sanctioned nearly Rs. 7 crores to the U. P. Government for the construction of 21 bridges on the national highways. The bridge over the Ganga at Garhmukteshwar at a cost of Rs. 93.43 lakhs and another bridge over the Betwa at a cost of Rs. 23.45 lakhs are already under construction. Of the 21 bridges, the one over the Sarju at Ayodhya will cost Rs. 124.37 lakhs, a bridge over the Yamuna in mile 98 of Lucknow-Jhansi road—Rs. 103 lakhs, bridge over the Ghaghra in mile 130 of Gorakhpur-Ghazipur road—Rs. 91.40 lakhs.

Road Safety Measures In U. K. And U. S. A.

Sir Howard Roberts, President of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, told the National Safety Congress in London in October that last year (1955) the total of road casualties in Great Britain was 267,922, which included 5,526 persons killed. This was the highest figure recorded in any one year. He feared that at the end of 1956 the total for Great Britain would be even worse. In the first eight months of this year 177,587 people became road casualties, including 3,465 persons killed. This was over 8,000 more casualties than in the corresponding period of last year. Deaths were up by 213.

After taking into account many factors that affect the situation, Sir Howard said that he felt that this year's casualties for Great Britain would be in the neighbourhood of 275,000, and that deaths would be approximately 5,750.

Sir Howard attributed the rising trend in road casualties mainly to the ever-increasing volume and mixture of traffic on British roads. The total population at risk also continued to rise steadily at the rate of about 200,000 people each year.

The total number of vehicles licensed was fast approaching the seven million mark. The way to safety lay through a combination of the three Es—Education, Engineering and Enforcement.

The road safety movement, Sir Howard said, welcomed the new provisions of the Road Traffic Act, which came into force this year. He also felt that the "Mind That Child" Campaign had caused a renewal of interest by the public in road safety. Largely due to effective propaganda the number of children killed in road accidents had been more than halved in the last 25 years. During each of the years 1952-55 the annual total of child road deaths had been below 800. The total of child casualties for 1955 was 48,710, including 764 children killed. So far this year there had been a small increase in child road deaths.

Pedestrians Made Liable

Britain's new Road Traffic Act, whose most of its provisions came into force on November 1, has for the first time in British history made citizens liable to punishment for reckless walking. Pedestrians must obey any signal to stop by a constable on traffic duty. A pedestrian who fails to do so may be fined £10 for a first offence and £25 for the next. Cyclists may face charges of reckless or dangerous or careless riding. Wayward motorists will be much more severely dealt with. Any person causing a death on the road by driving recklessly or dangerously will be liable to imprisonment for five years.

The Pedestrians' Association of Great Britain has pointed out the difficulty of keeping one's eyes on the policemen as well as the traffic, and accused Parliament of discouraging people from crossing the road in view of a policeman for fear of committing an offence.

7482 Pedestrians Killed in 1955 : U. S. A. Safety Record

According to the American Automobile Association in the year 1955 a record of the lowest number of pedestrians were killed in the United States in any single year in the modern times. The year's toll of 7482 was revealed in a preliminary survey of the motor vehicle accident statistics of each of the 48 States and District of Columbia taken by the A A A's Traffic Engineering and Safety Department. The previous low was in 1954 when about 7,900 persons died as a result of being struck by vehicles. The worst year was 1937 when the tally rose to 15,500 pedestrians killed. In announcing the result of the 1955 survey, commendation was directed toward local officials who have been responsible for the enactment and enforcement of laws and ordinances designed to give greater protection to pedestrians.

Underground Railway for Bombay

Expenditure on a preliminary survey for a Rs. 61 crore subway for Bombay city was sanctioned by the Municipal Corporation on November 12. Mrs. Sulochana Modi presided in the absence of the Mayor, Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader. Five experts from the United Kingdom have already arrived in Bombay to do the survey at their own cost. Nearly 100 firms have obtained the necessary forms from the B. E. S. T. Undertaking for submitting tenders.

No city in India has underground railway. West Bengal Government sometime ago had toyed with the idea of such a railway for Calcutta but it was abondoned soon.

Mr. M. G. Monani, general manager of the Bombay Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking (BEST) said on December 10 that a tentative scheme for the underground railway system for the city of Bombay, had been drawn up with the idea of implementing it in three stages, at a total estimated cost of Rs. 61 crores, spread over a period of ten to fifteen years or longer. This, he added, was a very rough preliminary estimate.

He added that the BEST's committee had sanctioned preliminary investigations by expert foreign engineers for obtaining a report on the technical and economic possibilities of the underground railway system, quotations from nine foreign effective tenderers had been received and investigation would be carried out and completed in 1957, he stated.

The approval of the expenditure on preliminary survey by the Bombay Corporation had come in for severe criticism in some quarters, it being stated that a proper order of priorities had not been drawn up to suit the urgent needs of the people of the city. More coaches on the suburban sections of both the Western Railway and Central Railway and more buses were needed immediately. Indications were that the subway project may not find support in New Delhi at present, these quarters said.

Plans For A Ropeway

The budget estimates of Bombay Municipal Corporation's B. E. S. T. Undertaking for 1957-59, presented to the Corporation's Standing Committee on November 28, provide Rs. 4 lakhs for the projected ropeway at Malabar Hill. No further expansion is contemplated in the tramway section. Provision, however has been made for improvement in the Bus transport.

City's Traffic Problem

Laying the foundation-stone of Western Railway's Rs. 1.30 crore seven-storeyed building of the new Churchgate station and the adjacent railway yard on October 31, Mr. Morarji Desai suggested that "we must find ways and means with the resources at our disposal" to tackle successfully the traffic problem of the city which "is getting severe day by day". There had been a phenomenal increase in passenger traffic since 1939 and the people of Bombay had been clamouring for more trains and additional facilities for the clearance of traffic.

The existing railway yard was able to handle 317 trains a day. When the scheme was fully implemented, it would handle between 400 and 450 trains per day, and even 500 trains when required.

Over-Crowding In Suburban Trains

The Railway Minister, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, told the Lok Sabha on November 15 that the Government had accepted many of the recommendations made by the committee to avoid excessive over-crowding during peak hours in the suburban railway services in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. These as well as the recent import of a number of electric coaches for the suburban services would reduce over-crowding to some extent, he said.

Calcutta's Frist Electric Train In 1957

Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Transport Minister, informed the Rajya Sabha on Nov. 27 that it was proposed to introduce the first electric train in the suburb of Calcutta in July 1957. The total estimated cost of the scheme, he said, would be Rs. 11.84 crores.

Nationalisation Of Road Transport

Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill

The Lok Sabha on November 29 passed the Moter Vehicles (Amendment) Bill as reported by the Joint Committee.

Mr. O. V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Transport, replying to the debate, said there could be no conflict between the private sector and the nationalised sector in the sphere of road transport service. As against a sum of Rs. 100 crores, which would be required for complete nationalisation of passanger bus services, Government had provided only Rs. 27 crores in the Second Plan for nationalisation purposes. But only Rs. 10 crores were used up. Nationalisation, he said, will not come in the way of expansion of private sector. States had been advised to prepare their schemes of nationalisation beforehand so that private interest would know which routes would be available to them for running bus services

On the question of development of indigenious automobile industry and the need for reducing the present high cost of motor vehicles, Mr. Alagesan said these matters were recently gone into by the Tariff Commission and its report was being examined by the respective Government Departments.

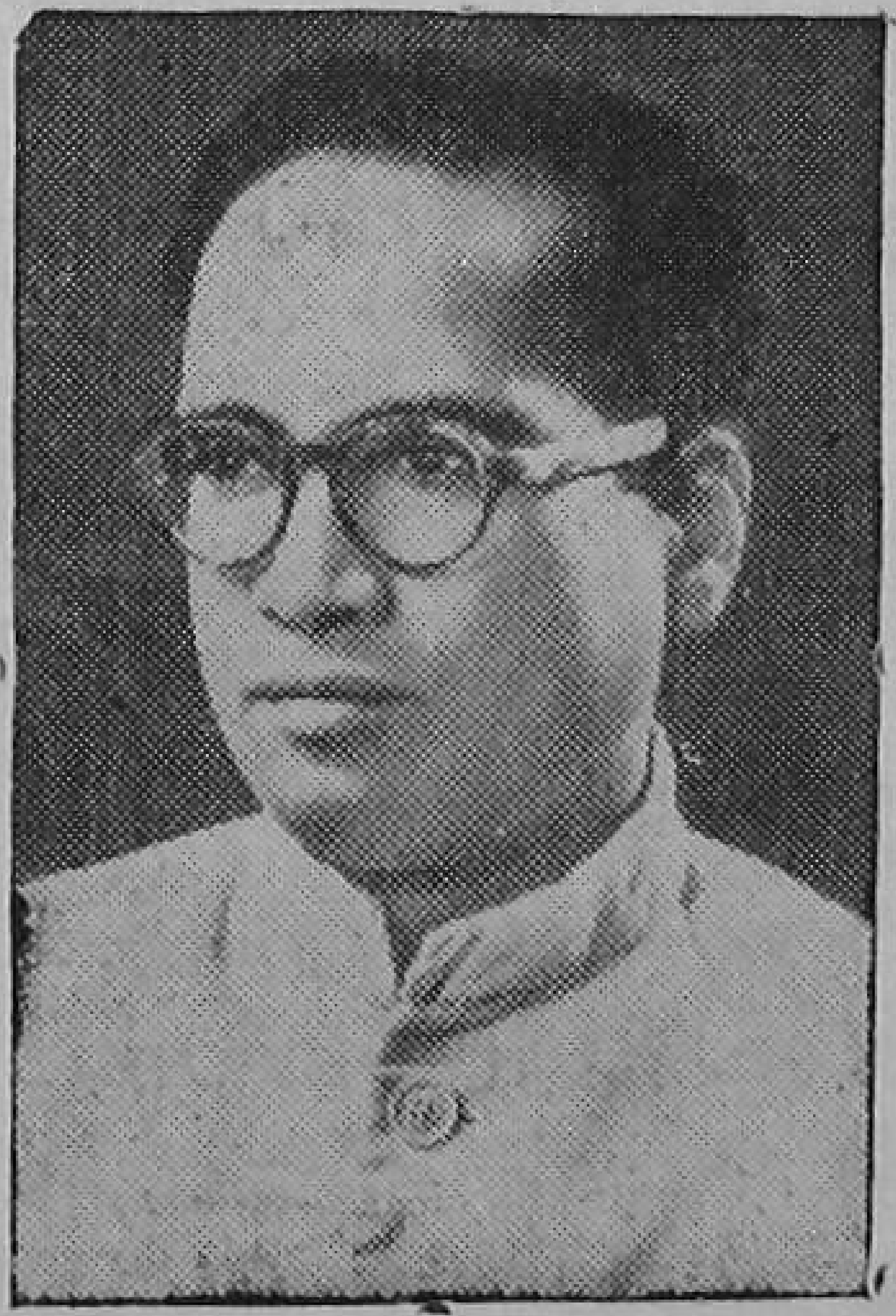
It had been agreed that separate legislation should be undertaken to govern service conditions of labour employed in road transport. Draft proposals evolved by the Standing Labour Advisory Committee in this regard had been circulated to States for their comments.

Railways' Interest In Road Transport

The Railways had so far invested about Rs. 5 crores in the share capital of various road transport corporations and other undertakings sponsored by the State Governments and this was roughly one-third of their total capital. **About Rs. 27 crores had also been provided in the Second Plan for expansion of road transport services and 5,000 vehicles would be added to the present fleet of nationalised road transport undertakings.** Further expansion in the public sector was not possible due to lack of funds.

Joint Committee's Report

The report of the joint committee on the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill was presented to both the houses of Parliament on November 20. Rates of compensation payable to a permit holder when the transport service he is running is taken over by the State, was doubled by the committee. **The committee considered that transport services undertaken by municipalities should also be regarded as State transport undertakings and had amended the Bill accordingly.**



Mr. O. V. Alagesan,
Union Deputy Minister for Transport

The committee recommended that instead of two separate authorities, the Inter-State Transport Authority and the Central Transport Authority, there should be only one authority, namely an Inter-State Transport Commission, appointed by the Central Government for the purpose of developing, coordinating and regulating the operation of transport vehicles in respect of areas or routes common to two or more States.

Another change made by the committee was to lay down that the chairman of a State Transport authority or regional transport authority should be a person with judicial experience.

(*Continued on next page*)

Case for Road Transport

Dr. F. P. Antia, Chairman of the Bombay Branch of the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association presiding over the 25th annual general meeting of the Association on November 28, said that only way to solve the problem of transport shortage that will face the country at the end of the second Five-Year Plan is to remove all "artificial" restrictions hindering the development of road transport and to develop the road system in a systematic manner. Dr. Antia said the anticipated shortage of 36 million tons presented a frightening prospect and tended to upset the entire production plans in India.

Railway Authorities' 'Superstitution'

He felt that the main cause of transport shortage was the "superstitution" of the railway authorities that road transport was a rival of the railways. Heavy taxation, low limit on haulage weight and the threat of nationalisation, were the three other factors retarding the progress of road transport development.

Separate Highways Department

Dr. Antia recommended the creation of a separate Highways Department by the Bombay Government to ensure greater attention on the construction of new roads and the upkeep of the existing ones and the spending of the money allocated for roads "to the best advantage". Separate departments for this purpose existed in Madras and West Bengal.

(*Continued from previous page*)

Objects of the Bill

The Transport Minister, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, moving the first reading of the Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act of 1939 as reported by a joint committee in the Lok Sabha on November 28, said that it would facilitate the development of motor transport generally in the country to meet the additional demand for transport during the Second Plan period. The Bill contained provisions for the nationalisation of motor transport service. It also sought to remove defects noticed in the working of the Act for the past 15 years.

Institute of Road Transport

Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, Union Deputy Minister for Railways and Transport, inaugurating the Delhi branch of the Institute of Road Transport, said on November 8 that the Government would give private road transport operators the necessary facilities, including relaxation in long-distance restrictions and assistance in obtaining permits for inter-State operation, with a view to enabling them to cope with the increased demand for transport during the second Five Year Plan period.

Role of Road Transport

Road transport would play a very important role in the Plan period as evidenced by the allotment of Rs. 265 crores by the planning Commission for its development. He expected that during the period an additional 60,000 vehicles would be put on the road to carry another 12 to 15 million tons of surplus products. Road transport today employed nearly 100,000 vehicles carrying 18 million tons.

Scientific and Objective Study

Mr. A. D. Pandit, Delhi's, Chief Commissioner, who presided, said that the branch in Delhi would encourage a scientific and objective study of the various branches of road transport covering all its aspects and arrange lectures by specialists, discussions, debates and demonstrations, and conduct classes, hold examinations and maintain libraries on matters relating to road transport.

Roads and Transport Association

Mr. A. D. Wenzel, Vice-President of the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association for the past two years, has succeeded Mr. E. A. Nadirshah as President of the Association. Mr. J. F. Sinclair, General Manager of Burmah-Shall in India, has been appointed Vice-President.

Railway Transport Plans

With a capital of nearly Rs. 1,000 crores and a total route mileage of over 35,000, the Indian railways today are by far the largest railway system in Asia and the second biggest State-owned enterprise in the world.

Bulk of the First Plan allotment of Rs. 400 crores had been spent on the rehabilitation and modernisation of rolling stock and other railway assets.

While the phase of rehabilitation continues, substantial development, in the form of increased line capacity and rolling stock, is also planned for the Second Plan period to meet the greater demand for rail transport that will arise from increased production in various sectors, particularly industry.

It is estimated that the additional freight which may have to be handled by 1960-61 will be of the order of 60 million tons. This may increase by another 15 to 20 million tons in view of certain revised targets of production. On the passenger side while no provision has been made for removing the present overcrowding on the railways, funds have been provided to cope with a three per cent increase in traffic.

Fortunately, we are now able to meet the railways' normal requirements of wagons and coaches from internal production. The production schedule of the Integral Coach Building Factory at Perambur (Madras) has been revised to reach the target a year earlier. When the Government-owned Chittaranjan Locomotive Works and the Government-assisted Tata Locomotive and Engineering Company reach their revised targets, we will be able to attain self-sufficiency in the matter of locomotives as well.

World Bank Loan

An eight-member delegation of railway officials, led by Mr. P. C. Bhattacharya, Secretary, Union Finance Ministry (Department of Expenditure), has left for the United States to negotiate with the World Bank for a loan for the Indian railway

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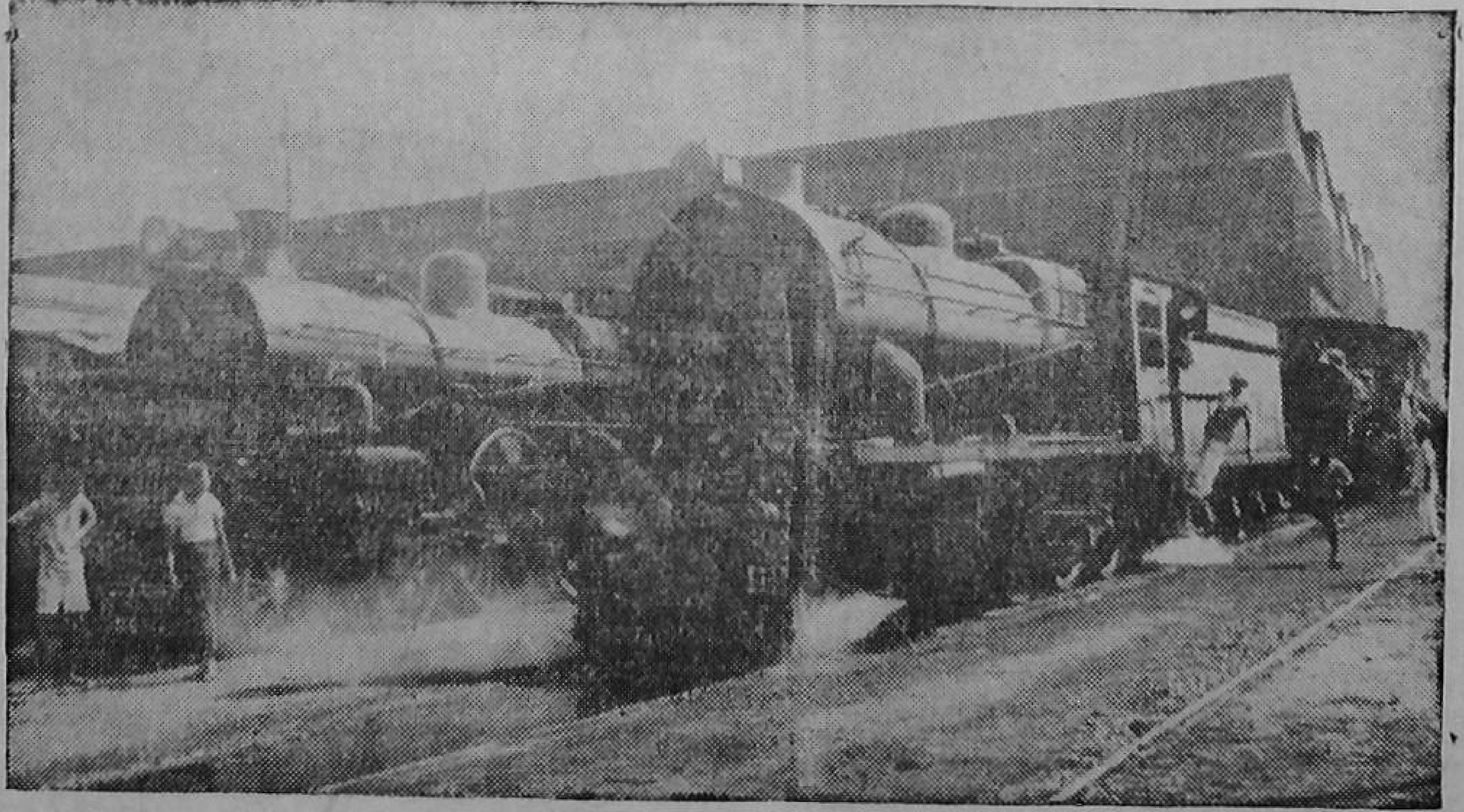

Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, Deputy Minister for Railways, informed the Lok Sabha on November 27 that the Indian Railways would be mostly self-sufficient in locomotives and wagons by the end of Second Five-Year Plan.

Accidents On Indian Railways

India's Railway and Transport Minister Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri resigned following the railway accident at Ariyalur, on November 23, which resulted in the death of 152 persons.

Costitutional Propriety

The Prime Minister announced in the Lok Sabha on November 26 his decision to accept the resignation of Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri Minister of Railway and Transport, in the interests of "constitutional propriety." There was no question of Mr. Shastri being personally responsible for the train disaster on November 23, Mr. Nehru said, but it was proper to set an example so that people did not think that "whatever happens, we carry on in the same way." The Prime Minister also disclosed that Mr. Shastri had offered his resignation after the Mahboobnagar smash in September, but he had not accepted it.

India's Railway Administration was severely attacked by the Opposition in a 2½ hour debate on the Ariyalur disaster in the Lok Sabha on November 27. Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Railway Minister, claimed, however, that the safety record on Indian railways was better than that on the railways in other countries. Indian Railways, he added, had achievements to their credit in every branch which were "by no means insignificant".

The Railway Board

Mr. Shastri put in a special plea on behalf of the Railway Board which had come under particularly severe criticism. Mr. Shastri assured the House that the present Railway Board was "the best" that the country could have.

Both Congress and non-Congress members, who took part in the discussion, said that something was wrong in the railway administration. Some blamed labour while others criticised the Railway Board.

Pampering of Grade IV Staff

Mr. Frank Anthony said that efficiency in many sections of the railway administration had fallen "disastrously". He said the main cause of decline in efficiency had to be found among class IV staff on which the whole administaration depended. This was due to the "misconceived policy" of the railway administration towards them. The administration had not only pampered this section but it was

Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri

afraid of it also. The supervisory staff, which controlled class IV section of workers, had been "emasculated" and was devoid of allauthority.

No Proper Co-ordination

Mr. B. S. Murthy (Congress) said that Mr. Anthony had displayed a "bureaucratic attitude" towards class IV staff. The manner in which the railway officers behaved towards their juniors and inferiors left a lot to be desired. This was the crux of the problem. The biggest weakness of the administration was that there was no proper "coordination" among different sections of the railway employees.

Mr. P. T. Thanu Pillai (Congress) said that the Railway Board had taken up the attitude that it was an autonomous body

(*Continued on next page*)

Terminal Tax On Railway Passengers

Local Bodies To Benefit

The Lok Sabha on November 21 passed the Bill providing for the levy of a terminal tax on passengers carried by railways from or to places of pilgrimages, fairs, "melas" and exhibitions. The Bill proposed the following rates of terminal tax in respect of every single ticket: Rs. 1/8/- for air-conditioned or first class, Re. 1 for second class and eight annas for third class. These rates are doubled for return tickets. The proceeds of the taxes are to be assigned to local bodies through the States after deducting collection expenses.

During the debate, one member urged that the proceeds of the tax should be spent properly for maintaining sanitation and providing amenities to people visiting fairs and festivals.

A Congress member suggested that the incidence of taxation should be fixed according to the financial requirements of the local bodies within whose jurisdiction the "melas" were held and the levy should be uniform on all classes of passengers.

Tax On Road Traffic

Replying to the debate, Mr. O.V. Alagesan, Deputy Minister for Railways, said that the levies proposed in the Bill were the maximum. Actual rates of levy in each case would be fixed in consultation with the State Governments concerned, after taking into consideration the financial needs of the local bodies. The Union Government, he said, was writing to the State Governments to impose a parallel tax on road traffic.

(*Continued from page* 61)

programme under the second Five-Year Plan. The officials are also likely to study the U. S. railroad system.

Rs. 150 Crore Gap

Indian Railways need Rs. 150 crores to cover the gap in goods transport capacity during the second Plan period. A substantial proportion of it will be in foreign exchange.

The President of the World Bank, Mr. Eugene Black, in his recent letter to India's Finance Minister has said: "We are struck by the extent to which the lack of adequate transport facilities threatens to constitute a bottleneck in the country's economic development." The purpose of the Indian delegation is to hold a general discussion with Bank officials on the problem of India's transport in the light of the study of Indian railways recently carried out by American railway consultants.

Road Versus Rail

Controversy will be unavoidable, however, if Bank officials reiterate their conclusion, embodied in Mr. Black's letter, that "attention should be given first to the possibilities of improving the operational efficiency of the Railways and of encouraging road transport and coastal shipping".

Mr. K. B. Mathur of the Railway Board, a member of the delegation, holds very strong views on the subject, differing widely from the World Bank's emphasis on roads and shipping.

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and it was not responsible to anyone. These "autonomous rajas" in all such autonomous bodies should be controlled and made answerable to the nation and Parliament.

Decline in Accidents

During his reply the Railway Minister pointed out that as regards the steps taken to decrease the number of accidents, the statistics compiled during the period 1951-54 showed that there was a decrease of 32 percent in the number of railway accidents in the USA, 22 percent in Britain and 39 percent on the Indian railway. India was far behind other countries in the matter of providing safety equipment.

Lack of Discipline

The special debate in the Lok Sabha threw into bold relief one undisputed fact—that there has been a deterioration in the sense of responsibility and discipline among railway workers. The Railway Minister, also agreed that there was a lack of discipline, but he was not prepared to admit that the position was in any way worse in the Railways than in other departments.

Bombay's Municipal Electricity Undertaking

The General Manager of the B. E. S. T. Undertaking, while presenting the budget estimates for 1957-58 to the Bombay Municipal Standing Committee on Nevember 28, hinted that the consumers in Bombay may have to pay more for electricity.

The revenue budget estimated a surplus of Rs. 70.12 lakhs, but speaking on the financing of capital expenditure, the General Manager, Mr. M. G. Monani, said: "While the financial position of the Undertaking had so far been sound, the imposition of additional thermal surcharges on electrical energy purchased by the Undertaking in bulk, as also the growing inflationary trend reflected in the rise in the rates of dearness allowance, and cost of materials, would make it difficult for the Undertaking to discharge its statutory obligations unless it is permitted to pass on these additional burdens to consumers". The estimated revenue surplus for the budgetary year 1957-58 is an improvement over the corresponding figures of the last few years. The revenue from all sources is estimated at Rs. 986.69 lakhs and the expenditure, after providing Rs. 216.14 lakhs for depreciation and debt charges, at Rs. 916.57 lakhs, leaving surplus of Rs. 70.12 lakhs as against an estimated surplus of Rs. 55.60 lakhs for 1956-57 (revised and an actual surplus of Rs. 61.41 lakhs for 1955-56.

Capital Expenditure

The capital expenditure of Rs. 113.64 lakhs budgeted for the electricity supply section includes a provision of Rs. 47.55 lakhs for new 22 kv. bulk supply receiving stations, additions and alternations to the existing receiving stations, and the laying of 22 kv. cables for receiving electricity in bulk from Tatas, who, under the new agreement, will supply electricity at only three points at 22,000 volts.

The General Manager said it was noteworthy that, since municipalisation, the whole of the capital expenditure, except for a public loan of Rs. 125 lakhs raised in September 1949, had been financed from the Undertaking's internal funds, which would be of the order of Rs. 935.43 lakhs at the end of 1957-58.

State Electricity Board Deficit

The revenue of the Bombay Electricity Board, which was set up in November 1954, for the year 1955-56 was Rs. 260 lakhs and expenditure Rs. 187 lakhs, leaving a gross surplus of Rs. 73 lakhs. Depreciation charges, however, took away Rs. 31 lakhs and interests charges Rs. 58 lakhs, leaving a net deficit of about Rs. 16 lakhs.

Nearly 100 villages in Bombay State had the benefit of electrification since the setting up of the Board, which expects to extend the electrification scheme to 269 more villages during the Second five-Year Plan period.

The production of electricity by the Board's power stations rose by 169 million units to 272 million units compared to the previous year's output. Sales had also gone up similarly.

The total length of transmission lines at the end of 1955-56 was 1,135 circuit miles, marking an increase of about 246 miles over the previous year's. The length of distribution lines also increased from 370 miles to 442 during the period.

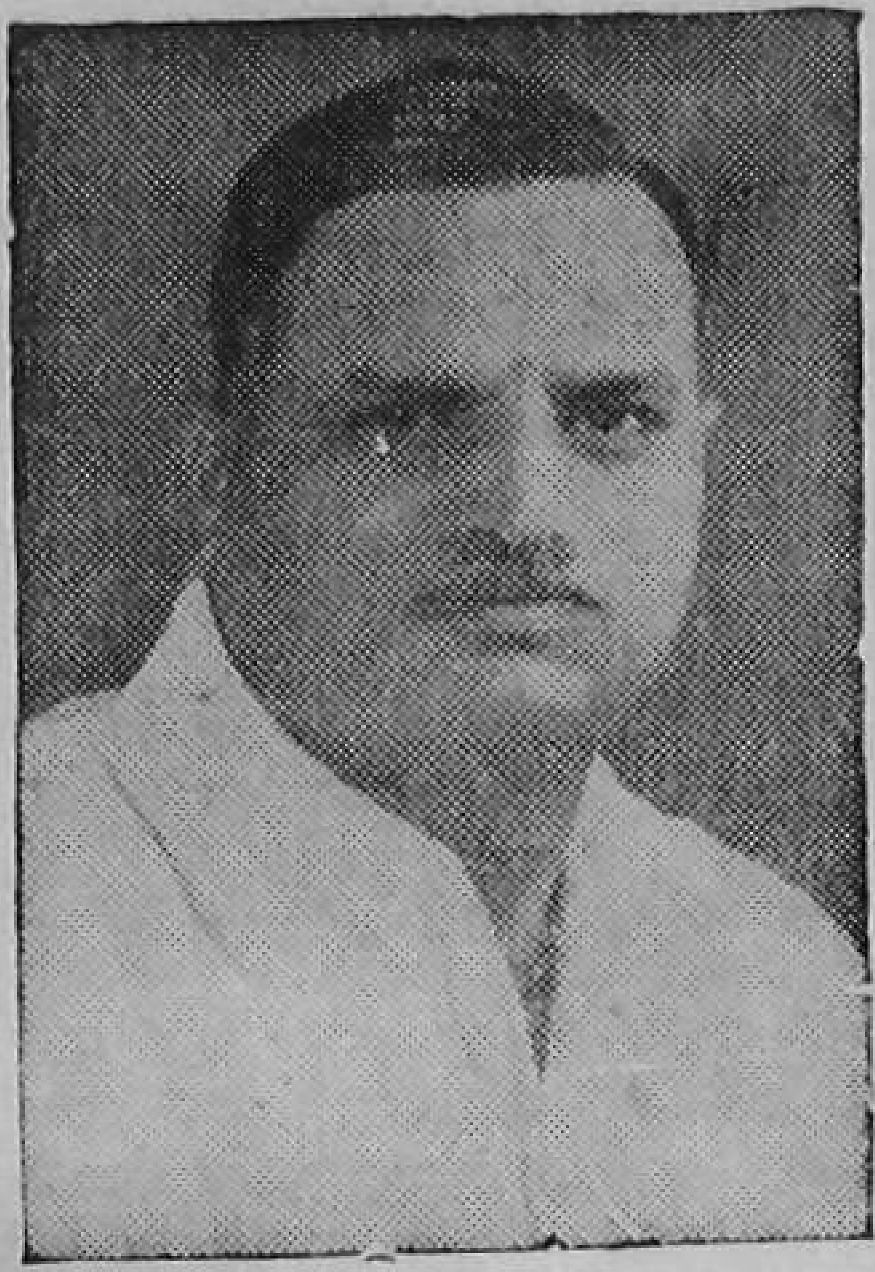
The total Second Plan expenditure on capital works sanctioned by the Planning Commission and approved by the State Government was to be Rs. 12 crores. The Board would add Rs. 240 lakhs to that amount from its internal resources.

U. P. Towns To Be Electrified

Forty-two towns with over 2,000 population each are proposed to be electrified in Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year. There is also a scheme to electrify 200 villages in the State during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan.

Power Development During Second Five-Year Plan

The Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power, Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi, in a statement laid on the table of the Lok Sabha on November 28 said that the four big cities of India, namely, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi, have between them a population of 2.29 per cent, and 27.17 per cent of power generated in the country was consumed in these cities.



Shri Jaisukhlal Hathi,
Union Deputy Minister for Irrigation and Power.

Approximately, 4 per cent of power on an all-India basis was consumed in 1955 in rural towns and villages.

The statement added that under the small town and rural electrification schemes in the Second Five-Year Plan, there is a provision for electrifying additional 10,600 towns and villages out of which 8,600 had a population less than 5,000. It will bring about an increase of 140 per cent in the number of towns and villages electrified at present.

It is anticipated that there would be in all 18,000 electrified towns and villages at the end of the Second Five-Year Plan as against 7,400 in March, 1956.

Out of the total outlay of Rs. 427 crores on the power programme, approximately Rs. 75 crores, that is, 18 per cent is intended for electrifying the rural areas and small towns.

At the end of the Second Five-Year Plan, it is expected that nearly 80 million representing 22 per cent of the country's population will be receiving electric power.

New Thermal Station For Delhi

The Government of India has sanctioned installation of an additional thermal station. This would take at least two years to function. The demand for electricity in Delhi has risen from 200 to 300 percent.

High Pressure Mercury Lamps From Moscow

The Moscow Electric Lamp Factory is the first Soviet plant to start the production of high pressure mercury lamps. They emit a bright soft light and are to be used for the illumination of Subterranean Structures, big factory shops and automobile highroads. As soon as large scale production begins several batches of such lamps will be shipped to India for the big iron and steel works under construction at Bhilai.

The Moscow—Vnukovo airport highway will also be illuminated with mercury lamps.

A Semi-automatic direct flow production line for the manufacture of thirty watt daylight lamps has been put in operation at the luminescent lamp shop. This is the first Soviet experiment of putting the manufacture of such lamps on an automatic basis. Direct flow production makes possible to step up their output greatly. While previously the daily output was seven thousand lamps, now it has increased to ten thousand.

Preparations are under way to start a direct flow production line for forty watt luminescent lamps early next year.

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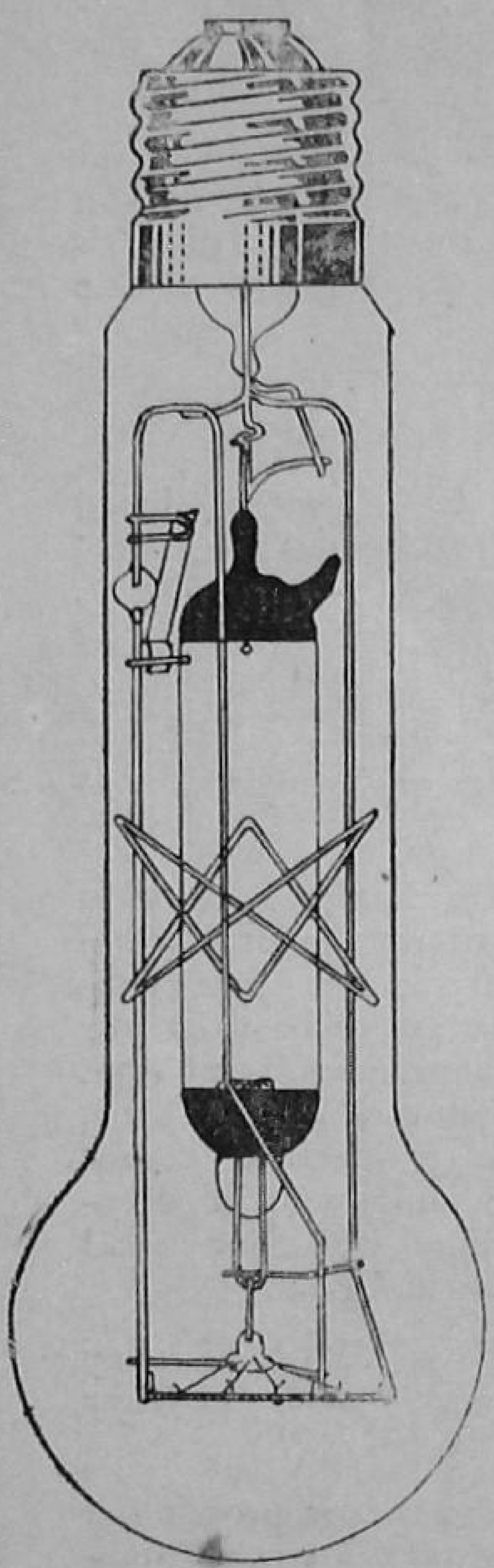

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Bhakra Project : Pride of India

Mr. A. K. Gopalan, Communist M. P., who visited Nangal in October, characterised the Bhakra project as the "pride of India" and said that it was necessary for everyone who mattered in the public life to see this mighty project. Mr. Gopalan said that some of the critics of the Government found fault with the Bhakra-Nangal project without ever having seen it.

Electric Machinery Manufacture

Mr. M. M. Shah, Minister for Heavy Industries, informed the Rajya Sabha on November 22 that there are about 101 factories in India for the manufacture of electrical equipment and machinery. Out of these, 89 were Indian-owned and 12 were either wholly or partly owned by foreign firms. The total capital invested in these factories was about Rs. 15 crores. Out of this, about Rs. 4.55 crores was foreign paid-up capital in the 12 factories mentioned above.

Government Factory In Bhopal

The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 32 crores for the heavy electrical equipment factory, which will be located at Bhopal. The construction of the factory building will start in 1958 in accordance with a plan approved by the technical consultants of the project.

Foreign Imports

India imported electrical machinery worth Rs. 19.94 crores in 1955-56 as compared with Rs. 15.8 crores in 1954-54.

Salwood Poles For Wire Lines

The Power and Public Works Department of the U. P Government are considering a proposal to use poles made of preserved salwood, for spreading overhead wire lines in view of the scarcity of iron and steel. The poles to be used will be first chemically treated to make them immune to the attacks of bores, white ants and fungus, and they will be impregnated by some deadly germicidal poisons. These wooden poles, it is hoped, would form a good substitute for steel poles at least for 20 years, and would cost at least 50 per cent less.

Research Programmes for Second Five-Year Plan

The Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission has finalised the main lines of research programme to be sponsored and assisted during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan. The following six broad categories of subjects have been chosen by the Committee:

1. Analytical studies of macro-economic aspects of Indian Economy i. e., trends of national income, investment, savings, inter-sector balances etc.

2. Studies in decentralisation and industrial dispersal including problems of planning regional development, e.g., the minimum economic and social overheads necessary for ensuring decentralised development of cottage and small industries, small town development etc.

3. Resources for development, e.g., capital formation, taxation and mobilisation of small savings.

4. Analytical studies of cultural change in rural and tribal life.

5. Studies in changes in family structure—urban and rural.

6. Studies in social hierarchy and leadership (hereditary, elective etc.)

According to its usual procedure, the Committee will receive and examine research schemes on subjects coming under any one of the above categories. In addition to these subjects schemes on such topics as were not covered by the studies undertaken under various categories of subjects selected for the First Plan period will be examined.

Some further categories of subjects in addition to the six mentioned above for research into problems of political science and public administration will also be selected. Additions to the above list may also be made keeping in view the problems of planning as they arise.

The Research Programmes Committee was set up by the planning Commission in July, 1953, for initiating and assisting research on socio-economic problems of planned development. The Committee consists of eminent social scientists and works in close co-operation with Universities, Schools of Social Work and other special research institutions in the country.

Sixty-five research projects were approved by the Committee for the period of the First Five-Year Plan and on most of these field investigation has already been completed. Reports on several research schemes have been received and some of them will be published shortly.

Social Implications of Industrialisation In South Asia

The Research Centre on the Social Implications of the Industrialisation, set up by UNESCO at Calcutta, which began operations last January, has received a large subvention from the Government of India and nine other Member States or Associate Members are taking part in its work—Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, and the Malaya/British North Borneo group. The Centre is responsible not only for carrying out research but also for training social scientisis.

The States contributing towards operation of the Calcutta Centre have already called for a study of the problems involved by (a) the effects of Western technology upon patterns of belief and behaviour in countries undergoing rapid industrialization; (b) the intermingling of rural and urban populations in those countries ; (c) the relation between increased juvenile delinquency and technological changes ; (d) the adjustment of manpower to new industries; (e) concentration or dispersal of populations as a result of industrialisation ; (f) community organisation and the emergence of new living habits, in relation to industrialisation and the growth of towns ; (g) the integration of cottage industries with large-scale industries ; (h) the impact of indusrialisaon existing communities ; (i) prejudice against certain types of work ; (j) the psychological, cultural and sociological factors affecting productivity.

A Critical Analysis of India's Community Development Programme—II

By **Dr. Carl C. Taylor,**

Ford Foundation Consultant on Community Development

For most of the problems which villages in India face there is need for outside assistance. The first assistance needed is for a consultant to help them know about all sources of assistance available to them, but more importantly to interpret their needs and desires to others. The description of the Village Level Workers as "the friend, philosopher and guide" of local groups is a quite perfect description of the qualifications of this needed consultant.

Part one of Dr. Taylor's Paper appeared in the November issue of this Journal.

The Programme In Operation At The Village Level

In my first visit to India, in February-March 1953, I visited some twenty villages in three States. There were at that time few well trained Village Level Workers. They are now much better trained. They are well accepted, often highly extolled, by villagers.

At The Block Level

The establishment of Block Offices staffed by a Chief Block Development Officer and a orps of Extension specialists, each Block to serve one hundred villages, was necessary as a technical support to first-aid Village Level Workers. It was also necessary in order to have some operating units between the offices of large Districts and the hundreds of villages which were to be served by a fast-moving programme. There is nothing more promising for the future than the detailed answers some Block Officers have given to my questions. Men who had looked forward to being Tax Collectors have seen a new vision, developed new zest, and testify that they never imagined they could be so dedicated as they now are to their new jobs. Not all Block Development Officers are, however, these types of persons.

The whole Block staff, including Village Level Workers, should constitute a development team. The Block Development Officer should be the captain of that team. He should be an enterpreneur of development in his Block, not an administrator in the common meaning of the term. He has no responsibility for law and order or revenue administration. He has a maximum of twenty-seven persons on his staff, counting the Village Level Workers, in the most intensive Blocks. His job is to get co-ordinated teamwork among that staff, to spend much time helping development groups and leaders in villages, and to educate all members of his staff and as many village groups and village leaders as possible on the whole development programme and process.

Block Advisory Committees

I have tried to learn all I could about the operation of Block Advisory Committees. I have been told by Block Development Officers the same thing that the recent Evaluation Report mentions, namely, that attendance of non-official members of these committees is not good. Much needs to be learned about the constitution and use of Local Advisory Committees. My own observations in India and in a number of other countries lead me to the conclusion that the claim on the part of officials that they desire non-official advice in order to keep their programme democratic and down to the recognized needs of local areas, is often a doubtful claim.

At least part of the cause of poor attendance of non-official members is the fact that some Government servants would prefer to run their programmes without "interference from outsiders". It is probably true that some persons seek membership on such Committees in order to enhance their social,

and sometimes their political, standing. But it is equally true that the programme must be the concern of and needs the sympathetic understanding and help of public figures.

The District Level

I have visited districts and with District Collectors in about a dozen States. While District Collectors are exceedingly intelligent persons, they have not yet been brought functionally into the development programme. Some of those with whom I have visited are dominantly interested in, and are spending much time in learning about and keeping up with, the development work in their districts. Others leave all such responsibility to Additional Collectors or Planning Officers.

I am, however, impressed by the decision taken by the State of Bihar to make District Collectors equally responsible for development work and police functions. Bihar has made it so by a directive which definitely fixes responsibilities. The merit of this decision, it appears to me, is that co-ordination of the contributions and personnel of the various development departments of the State is made much more probable than is now somtimes the case.

The Weakest Link

On the whole it appears to me at the moment that District Office staff are the weakest link in the claim of the development programme.

Hard Lesson For Administrators

The problems which villagers and Village Level Workers encounter in their day-by-day work in the Community Development-Extension Programme, when communicated to higher echelons of programme operation should determine the roles the personnel in these echelons of administration need to and should play. This is a hard lesson for administrators to learn but it is the only way by which "villagers will become the masters of Government officials who are their servants".

Selection And Training of Personnel

In most under-developed countries there is a dearrth of personnel with which to launch a Community Development — Extension Programme. There is also a lack of understanding about the amount and types of personnel required and the types of training they must have.

Some countries hold up launching of a programme for months while they train Village Level Workers, and some of them delay for years while they try to increase the number of College graduates. Some of them go on for years before they discover that the type of College graduates they have are not effective local workers. Most of them, even when they recognize that they must use persons with something less than College degrees, attempt to conduct sub-College training at their Colleges overlooking or not recognizing that these Colleges are not prepared for or capable of doing a practical job of training.

India avoided all these mistakes by starting the field programme and training of village workers simultaneously.

Village Level Workers

By selecting village boys with no more, and sometimes less, than high school education, it was quickly evident that such workers were accepted by villagers. It was quickly learned that training centres needed to provide a great deal of practical training.

No matter how often stories are repeated about village workers hanging around villages for days before they were accepted and used, or how vivid the experiences of early break-through the outstanding thing India has demonstrated is not only that "village approaches" required the use of village reared boys, but that training centre syllabi need to contain what trainees and trainers have discovered the village level job to be.

Selection and training of Village Level Workers is not perfect, nor are all Village Level Workers competent or diligent. Some Block Officers tell me that some of them ought to be dismissed but they have no authority to dismiss them.

Overburdened With Chores

But by and large, however, I am impressed by the diligence, rapport with

villagers, and the technical competence of most of the great number of village workers I have observed and with whom I have visited. They are overburdened with chores, assigned by those above them, and do not display too much genius for group and community organization. The first is probably the fault of administration. The second is due to the fact that the training centres do not have adequate training in the field of group methods. But it is clear that the training of Village Level Workers has profited year by year from what Village Level Workers and those who train them have learned out of operation of the Community Development Programme.

Block and Project Executive Officers

It is my observation, both of Block Development Officers on the job and of the Centres which train them, that the key positions Block Development Officers occupy require a longer period of training and more practical experience at the village level. If Block Development Officers are captains of Block development teams, they too must know and practise group processes and help all members of their staffs to do so. Not many of them will understand these methods unless they are taught them in Training Centres.

Social Education Organisers

The job of Social Education Organizers has not developed in field operation in the way it was originally delineated.

Block and District Extension Specialists

It appears to me that the future importance of Block and District Extension specialists can hardly be exaggerated, some 12,000 will be needed during the next five years. Many more thousands will be needed during the next five years. They must be recruited from promotions within the Community Development-Extension operating programme or from Extension Wings of Colleges of Agriculture where their training has included a lot of practical experience in Community Development-Extension work. On the competence of these specialists will depend the increased agricultural production on which so much depends. Funds spent in training these specialists can be made to yield greater returns than funds spent in reclamation of new land.

Numbers of Tarined Personnel

It would be difficult to exaggerate and is even difficult to imagitne the numbers of trained personnel who will be required to serve India's development programme at the stage to which it will have advanced within 20-25 years. Not only the numbers but the qualifications of all levels of personnel will need to be higher. Women workers will be particularly short in both numbers and training.

(To Be Concluded)

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Taylor Report In The Lok Sabha

Two Congress members, basing their questions on the criticisms made of the working of the Community Projects in the Taylor report, asked in the Lok Sabha on December 14, what percentage of the money spent on community development had borne fruit and how much of it had gone waste.

Democracy A Very Slow Process

Mr. S. K. Dey, Minister for Community Development, replied: "It is very difficult to estimate the percentage that has gone waste in any enterprise. Every enterprise, whether commercial or otherwise, involves an element of waste and there must have been some waste in the community development programme also. But we are convinced that it has been as low as it possibly could be". Mr. Dey said that democracy was a very slow process of development and "it is very unfair to expect that perfection in community organisations can be achieved overnight."

Dr. Taylor's Criticisms

When a member drew attention to Dr. Taylor's criticisms about the standard of social education organisers and the district staff, Mr. Dey said that every effort was being made to improve the quality of social education organisers' training through the appointment of proper staff as also adjustment of syllabus and qualifications for recruitment. As regards the district staff, he said it was difficult to build up technical experience overnight.

Action on Report

Mr. Dey said the following procedure had been laid down in connection with action on Dr. Taylor's report:

The main conclusions and recommendations contained in the report along with other evaluation reports would be considered by the Development Committee of Ministers as well as the Advisory Committee consisting of the Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner and Secretaries and heads of departments, in each State; important points in the report should be taken up for discussion at inter-State seminars; State Governments should take action on specific points in respect of which further examination is not considered necessary.

The report was under examination both by the State Governments and the Ministry of Community Development.

Common measures agreed to between the Centre and States will be incorporated as part of general instructions which will be issued after the report has been fully processed along with other reports received during the year. No basic change in policy is visualized, but there will be some adjustment in emphasis on certain aspects of the programme," Mr. Dey added.

Second Inter-State Regional Seminar

The Second Inter-State Regional Seminar, held in Hardwar, on November 23 discussed recommendations relating to the development of small industries in rural areas, to expand employment opportunities, raise incomes and standard of living and bring about a more balanced and integrated rural economy.

The recommendations included a blockwise general survery of the industries in those areas and of the requirements of the people and the potentialities for putting up new industries and marketing facilities for them.

Increasing Association of Non-Officials

The Union Minister for Community Projects, Mr. S. K. Dey, addressing the concluding session of the second Inter-State Regional Development Seminar in Hardwar on November 24, envisaged increasing association of non-officials in the implementation of the community development programme. He said that study circles of Members of Parliament might be formed at the Centre and of legislators in the States to give a fillip to development activities in the country.

Winding up the proceedings of the four-day seminar, the Development Commissioner of U. P. said that the objective of planning could be achieved if co-ordination between various developments was

made the keynote of the planning programme.

British Experts Meet Mr. S. K. Dey

The British Financial Experts now in India met Mr. S. K. Dey, Minister for Community Development, on November 14 and had a general discussion on the Community Development programme which now covers more than one-fourth of India's 5,50,000 villages. The delegation was expected to visit one or two project areas in West Bengal and Northern India during their stay in the country.

New Tasks For Village Level Workers in U. P.

U. P. Government in a circular to all the District Officers of the State have emphasised the need for closer co-ordination between the Revenue Administration and the Planning set-up in the district to solve the many problems confronting the former. The State Development Commissioner with the concurrence of the State Land Reforms Commissioner, in this circular said that it was high time the Village Level Workers and Lekhpals (former patwaris) worked hand-in-hand as two arms of the same administrative machinery and the former's training in extension methods and their contacts with the people were utilised to smoothen the difficulties the Lekhpals are facing at present.

The Village Level Workers have been asked to attend all meetings of the Land Management Committee of which the Lekhpal is the secretary and to stimulate greater interest in villagers in the working of these committee. The village level workers, who have intimate contacts with Gaon Panchayats, are to see that the orders in regard to changes in land records are complied with, and the registers of Gram Samaj property are completed as early as possible. The Group Level and Village Level Workers have been asked to help in discovering through personal contacts cases of encroachment on Gaon Samaj property, and to persuade the Land Management Committee to report them for action. Development staff will also prepare in collaboration with revenue staff plans for the best utilisation of land vesting in Gaon Samaj.

The Development Commissioner has, however, emphasised that only extension technique and methods of social edication should be employed in carrying out the instructions enumerated above.

Future of Community Projects in Kerala

The Community Development Minister, Mr. S. K. Dey, said in Trivandrum on November 11 that the future of Kerala's community development programme rested on "the character of its Government which takes charge after the next elections."

The Minister added, the future Government, whatever might be its political complexion, "must have sufficient strength in the legislature. It should not be living day-today."

Mr. Dey thought there could be 50 to 100 per cent increase in Kerala's agricultural output if non-official agencies like panchayats took a major share in initiating intensive expansion plans.

The Ford Foundation, established in 1936 by the famous automobile manufacturer, has aided institutions in 13 countries of the free world. A grant of 2,000,000 dollars to India, for example, was used to improve rural life, education, etc.

People's Programme With Govt. Participation

People's participation has all along been the key-note of the Community Development Programme. But the emphasis now has shifted and the effort is to transform this "Government's programme with the people's participation" into "people's programme with Government participation." For such a change-over, the first essential is the creation of statutory village bodies which can be trained to take over the initiative from the Government before the expiry of the period of the programme.

The second Five Year Plan has stressed the necessity of revitalising panchayats which could function as effective local self-governing bodies. The Plan lays down that it is the general aim to establish a statutory panchayat in every village, specially in areas selected for National Extension and Community Development Projects. **During the first Five Year Plan, the number of village panchayats increased from 83,087 to 117,593. By the end of the second Five Year Plan, the number of panchayats is expected to go up to 244,564.**

In the Community Project areas, it has been recommended that a sum up to a limit of Rs. 2,000 should be placed at the disposal of panchayats for programmes to be planned as well as executed by them. Apart from this, the panchayats in most of the States are already intimately connected with the formulation of plans in their areas. These plans are consolidated into programmes for the community blocks after they receive the approval of the Block Advisory Committee.

People's participation has also been secured by setting up *ad hoc* bodies in the villages for the planning and execution of development schemes. Among such bodies which have done useful work are Gaon Sabhas, Gaon Sanghs, Vikas Mandals, etc.

Democracy For Manipur Tribals

The Lok Sabha on November 14 passed the Manipur (Village Authorities in Hill Areas) Bill, which, among other things, provides for the election of village authorities in the Manipur on the basis of adult suffrage in suitable cases in place of nomination. The other features of the Bill are rationalisation of the existing provisions and their simplification as far as possible, the omission of all references to trials by ordeal and the enlargement of the list of cases which village courts could try.

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister for Home Affairs, said that the Bill seeks to consolidate the amended law relating to the constitution and functions of village authorities in the hill areas of the Union Territory of Manipur, and was a further step taken by the Government towards the democratisation and rationalisation of the administration in the hilly areas of Manipur.

The Bill was generally welcomed. Some members however, were critical of the provision which gave powers to the Chief Commissioner of the State to nominate village authorities.

Mr. Datar replied that they had to introduce democracy in the hilly areas of the State with caution as the people there were simple-minded and ignorant. The Chief Commissioner was an officer of the Government of India and he would not act arbitrarily.

During the detailed consideration of the Bill the House accepted an official amendment which entitled persons who had incurred certain disqualifications to hold office in panchayats provided they sought previous permission of the Chief Commissioner.

The Bill was also passed by the Rajya Sabha on November 22. In his reply to the debate Mr. B. N. Datar said the Government had no intention it interfere with the affairs of the tribal people, but it wanted to extend the principles of democracy to tribal areas as well.

New Panchayat Law For Punjab

The Revenue Minister, Mr. Harcharan Singh, announced on November 18 that Punjab's Panchayat Act will soon be repealed

and a new law incorporating the best in the Punjab and PEPSU Acts will be enforced shortly.

In the Punjab village panchayats have certain judicial powers. There have been frequent complaints about the use of these powers because village panchayats are often influenced by local considerations. The new law is likely to follow the PEPSU pattern where village panchayats have no judicial powers. These powers are vested in regular judicial panchayats elected for a group of five or six villages. These judicial panches are directly elected on the basis of adult franchise.

The PEPSU practice of elections being held by a show of hands may be replaced by the Punjab practice of secret ballot. Similarly the Punjab practice of the Director of Panchayats being the final appellant authority is likely to replace the PEPSU practice of appeals lying with the Commissioner.

The Government may also consider the desirability of vesting more powers in the district panchayat officers as the present system of collecting fines levied by panchayats through revenue authorities has been found to be tardy and damaging to the prestige of village panchayats.

The PEPSU Panchayat Raj Act was enforced in July 1953, while the panchayats in the Punjab are being administered by an Act which was amended in 1954.

Bombay Panchayat Bill

Bombay Legislative Assembly on November 27 second time passed the Bill to amend the Bombay Village Panchayats Act.

An explanation on behalf of the Government for its failure to obtain the Governor's assent to the official Bill passed in the October session of the old Legislature, before the new Bombay State was formed, was given by the Minister for Law, Mr. Shantilal Shah. He was replying to the criticism from three Opposition members that the re-enactment of the legislation was costing the Government nearly Rs. 50,000 by way of allowances to members.

The Bill to amend the Village Panchayats Act, was passed on October 16, and the Legislature Department, "which is not under the control of the Government", sent it to the Legal Department on October 24. After scrutiny, the Bill was sent to the Governor on October 29, with a Saturday and Sunday intervening. That was how the Bill failed to receive the assent.

West Bengal Panchayat Bill

The West Bengal Panchayat Bill, pa sed during the last session of the State Legislature in August, has not yet (November 22) been sent to the President for his assent as required under the Constitution. The President's assent to the measure was necessary because it contained some provisions relating to judicial matters which were repugnant to the Central Acts on those subjects.

M. P. Panchayats Conference

The Prime Minister, Mr. Jawahar Lal Nehru, will inaugurate a conference of representatives of Janapad Sabhas and village panchayats in Madya Pradesh at Indore during the annual session of the Congress. The Chief Minister, Mr. Ravi Shanker Shukla, will preside.

This conference of 18,500 Panchayats, has been called with a view, among other things, to discuss co-ordination of work and participation in the Five-Year Plan.

Opposition parties in the State have taken exception to this as "the grossest kind of affront to democracy as this will amount to identification of elected local bodies with a particular political party," as stated by Mr. Shyam Narayan Kashmiri, Secretary of the Madhya Pradesh PSP.

U. P. Panchayat Festival

Nearly 2,000 Villagers selected from over 8,500 nyaya panchayats from all over U. P. will participate in the State Panchayat Festival in Lucknow from December 24 to 31.

The festival will cost of Rs. 78,500. A training camp and a seminar will also be organised as part of the festival to provide a forum for the training of newly elected pradhans, up-pradhans, members, panches and sarpanches of panchayats.

An All-India conference of the Directors of Panchayats has also been convened.

Panchayat Justice—For And Against

Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla of the Punjab High Court, speaking at the Delhi Rotary Club on November 8 on "Law in everyday life", opposed the scheme conferring judicial powers on panchayats. He said: "A judge who is elected can never divest himself of partiality towards his electors. He always has an eye on the voters."

A Sample

A novel settlement of dues in which a young delinquent took his legal punishment at commercial rates has been reported from a Seraikella village in Singhbhum district.

The younger of the two brothers slapped last week his elder who promptly brought the offence to the notice of the village gram panchayat. The panchayat held accused guilty and fined him annas eight.

The offender pulled out a one-rupee note, deposited it with the mukhia (headman) and asked for the change. The mukhia was in a fix as neither he nor any other member of the panchayat could provide the necessary change.

Accused himself solved their problem by giving another slap to his brother and walked off advising them to adjust the balance of annas eight for the second offence. The equation of commercial values with legal values left the panchayct members so dumb-founnded that they could not even point out that a second offence always entailed a more severe punishment under all man-made laws.

U. P. Minister Counsels Patience

Inaugurating a Panch Sammelan at Charkhari on November 21 Mr. Ali Zaheer, Minister for Local Self-Government, appealed to the public for patience and understanding and not to be uncharitable in their criticising of working of panchayats because of some cases of miscarriage of justice coming to their notice. The Minister reminded them that panchayats were responsible for as much as 40 per cent compromises in cases filed before them, and thereby avoided a lot of mutual bitterness between parties and expensive litigation.

At the invitation of the Government of India, His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia, visited India from October 25 to Nov. 17, 1956.

A joint statement was issued on November 8, by His Imperial Majesty and the Prime Minister of India.

Civic Reports From States

Andhra

New Cabinet

The 12-member Andhra Pradesh Cabinet, headed by Mr. N. Sanjiva Reddy, assumed office on November 1. The Ministers, seven from Andhra and five from Telengana, are: Messrs. N. Sanjeeva Reddy (Chief Minister), K. V. Ranga Reddy, Kala Venkat Rao, K. V. Narsing Rao, D. Sanjivayya, V. B. Raju, P. T. Reddy, B. P. Pattabhirama Rao, Nawab Mehdi, Nawab Junge Bahadur, G. V. R. Naidu, K. B. Reddy and Mr. Narasinga Rao.

The Chief Minister has indicated that there would be no Deputy Chief Minister. Some Deputy Ministers would however, be appointed.

Mr. B. Gopala Reddi, former Chief Minister of Andhra, was sworn in as a member of the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet on November 30. With the inclusion of Mr. Gopala Reddi, the Andhra Pradesh Cabinet's strength has been increased to 13. Mr. Sanjiva Reddi said the Cabinet strength might be increased to 14 later as "thirteen" was considered an unlucky number.

Before the inauguration of Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Gopala Reddy had declined the invitation of Mr. Sanjiva Reddy to join his Ministry on the ground that it would be "graceless" on his part to join the Ministry, unless all his supporters in the Andhra Cabinet were also included. The change in his stand was attributed to the advice from the Congress Working Committee and the genuine desire to end group politics within the Andhra Pradesh Congress.

On November 25, he categorically declared that he was against leading any group within the Congress any longer.

Assam

New Tribal Minister

Mr. Aroon Alley, a tribal member in the Assam Assembly from the Khasi Hills, was sworn in as a Minister in the Assam Cabinet on November 13. He will take over the Excise Minister's portfolio when the Rev. Roy vacales office.

Rev. J. M. Nichols Roy, Excise Minister of Assam Cabinet, in a letter of resignation to the Chief Minister, Mr. Bishnu Ram Medhi, had said that his resignation would take effect from December 1, 1956. Rev. Nichols Roy had recently declined to sign the Congress pledge.

Operations Against Naga Rebels

Maj.-Gen. Kochar, GOC, Assam, said in Shillong on November 24 that the post-monsoon army operations against Naga hostiles have been successfully concluded. Explaining the latest position in the Naga Hills District, he said that heavy concentrations of hostiles had mostly been destroyed and it had become possible for army units to visit most of the affected villages where loyal Nagas were extending all co-operation to the authorities. The hostiles numbering about 1200, had scattered in small groups and the army was at present engaged in mopping up operations. In the Angami area, most of the Nagas had realised the futility of the demand for independence and the area was now very peaceful, he added.

About the law and order situation, he said life was now returning to normally and hoped that peace would not be disturbed again in the district. The army was vigilant. The main task before it, besides tackling stray hostiles, was relief and rehabilitation of those Nagas who had suffered greatly at the hands of the hostiles.

The three military sepoys, who had been arrested in connection with the killing of Dr. Haraloo, a loyal Naga physician, in the Naga Hills district, have been sentenced to transportation for life by a court martial

Recrudescence of Trouble

After a lull of nearly three months Naga hostiles were, however reported active again on November 29, when they raided a tea garden, a mile from the Naga hills boundary.

No Foreign Aid For Nagas

Mr. B. N. Datar told the Rajya Sabha, on November 28 that according to information with the Government no adjacent foreign country was helping the Naga rebels. Asked if the Government was satisfied that apart from the arms dumped by Japanese in Naga territory during the war the hostiles did not hold other arms, Mr. Datar said: "The Government is of the tentative view that there has been no smuggling".

Mr. Datar had earlier told the House that the number of Naga rebels, who had surrendered during the last three months, was 73. The details of arms and ammunition seized from the rebels were: rifles (all types), 65; guns (all types) 243; Sten-guns 3, small arms ammunition (all types) 258 rounds.

Mr. Datar added that 29 military personnel were killed in the Naga disturbances during the period August 15 to November 15, 1956.

Plague in Gauhati

The Government of Assam on Nov. 24 confirmed that there have been cases of plague in Gauhati — the first definite incidence of the disease anywhere in Assam. Students were known to have fled hostels in Gauhati owing to the scare of the epidemic.

Industrial Estate

An Industrial Estate, covering an area of 40 acres, is to be set up in Gauhati. The Government of India has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 5.70 lakhs in the first instance to the Government of Assam for this purpose. With the approval of this scheme, 13 Industrial Estates have been sanctioned by the Government of India in different States.

Rivers Survey

The Union Government's decision to undertake survey operations with a view to establishing a link between the Ganga and the Teesta and the Brahmaputra has been well received in Assam. The survey is part of the plan to establish a direct navigation line entirely through Indian territory from Calcutta to Assam for the benefit of goods and passenger traffic. Ever since partition of India, more than 60% of Assam's import and export traffic is carried by river.

NEW RAILWAY MINISTER

Mr. Jagjeevan Ram has succeeded Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri as India's Railway Minister.

Bihar

Local Bodies Members Resign

Fortyone Congress members of various district and local boards in Bihar have resigned their seats in protest against the policy of excluding all such office-holders from the list of candidates to contest the ensuing elections to the State Assembly and Parliament. A deputation of the Bihar Local Bodies Association on November 23 waited upon Mr. Morarji Desai, A.-I.C.C. Supervisor, who along with Mr. K. C. Reddy and Mr. Jainarain Vyas had arrived in Patna to finalise the list of candidates for the elections.

Bombay

New State Cabinet

The new State of Bombay, the largest unit in the Indian Union both from the point of view of size and revenue, was born five minutes after midnight at the Raj Bhavan, Bombay, on October 31, when the new Council of Ministers, together with their portfolios, was announced by the Governor, Mr. M. C. Chagla. The Bombay Government has 15 Ministers and 8 Deputy Ministers.

The 15-member Cabinet consists of the following:— Mr Y. B. Chavan, Chief Minister (Political and Services, Home and Planning), Dr. Jivraj Mehta (Finance), Mr.

Rasiklal U. Parikh, former Chief Minister of Saurashtra (Revenue), Mr. Malojirao Mudhojirao Naik-Nimbalkar (Public Works) Mr. G. D. Tapase (Local Self-Government, excluding Village Panchayats and Fisheries), Mr. Shantilal Harjivan Shah (Education and Law), Mr. M. S. Kannemwar, former Public Heatlh Minister of Madhya Pradesh (Public Health), Mr. Din Dayal Gupta, former Labour Minister of Madhya Pradesh (Labour), Mr. Ratubhai Mulshankar Adani, former Minister of Saurashtra (Prohibition, Village Panchayats and Cottage Industries), Smt. Indumati Chimanlal Sheth, former Deputy Minister for Education (Social Welfare, including Rehabilitation), Mr. Babubhai Jashabhai Patel, former Deputy Minister for Public Works (Development, Planning, Electricity and Housing), Mr. Mustafa Gulamnabi Faki, former Deputy Minister for Revenue (Agriculture, including the Aarey Milk Colony), Mr. Vasantrao Phulsingh Naik, former Deputy Minister of Madhya Pradesh (Co-operation, excluding Cottage Industries), Mr. Bhagwatrao Gambhirrao Gadhe of Marathwada (Forests), Mr. Vinayak Krishna Sathe, former Deputy Minister for Civil Supplies (Civil Supplies, Industries and Printing Press).

New Governor

Mr. Sri Prakasa was sworn in as the Governor of Bombay on December 10.

Bombay "The Most Elegant City in East"

Bombay's Governor, Mr. M. C. Chagla, inaugurating the 27th meeting of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power in Bombay city on November 20, referred to Bombay as "this most elegant city of the East".

Civic Reception to Burmese Prime Minister

Bombay Municipal Corporation on November 10 gave a gala civic reception to the president of the Second Asian Socialist Conference (U Ba Swe, Prime Minister of Burma) at Kamla Nehru Park,

U Ba Swe, replying to the welcome, thanked the Mayor for the cordiality shown to him and other delegates, Mr. S. A. Kader, the Mayor, in his address, said the city was proud that it had been chosen as the venue for the important international conference.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Ceylon, who was on his way to New Delhi, speaking at the reception, said it was now time to think clearly and act with tolerance, patience and restraint. He added that today no one could afford to think in narrow terms. Mr. Bandaranaike was specially invited to the civic reception as chief guest.

R. I. President

Bombay Municipal Corporation gave a civic reception to Mr. Gian Paolo Lang, the President (1956-57) of Rotary International on December 1. An expenditure of Rs. 1,000 had been sanctioned by the Corporation for the reception.

Education Budget

Mr. P. R. Nayak, Municipal Commissioner of Greater Bombay, presented to the Municipal Education Committee in Bombay on November 7 budget estimates "E" for the year 1957-58, showing a deficit of Rs. 16,52,000. The income for the year is estimated at Rs. 1,70,00,000, as against an estimated expenditure of Rs. 1,86,52 000. The deficit would be met from the opening balance, estimated at Rs. 19,80,000.

Shortcomings of Municipal Education

Dr. S. R. Wadia, Chairman of the Bombay Municipal Education Committee, commenting on the Budget Estimates (E) for 1957-58 said on November 14 that if the Government failed to sanction an adequate grant to the municipal educational programme, the Municipal Corporation would be compelled to levy an educational cess much to the discomfiture of the "heavily burdened" tax-payers.

He listed some of the shortcomings in the municipal education system, such as unsatisfactory medical inspection of children, insufficient Montessory schools, the appalling condition of the hired school buildings, which lacked sanitary conveniences, ventilation and light. Overcrowding was another aspect that required to be remedied, he added.

Modern Slaughter House

The Mayor of Bombay, Mr. Salebhoy Abdul Kader, in his presidential address to the 34th annul conference of the Bombay Veterinary Medical Association on Nov. 17, announced an ambitious scheme for the construction of a modern and up-to-date slaughter house for Bombay city at Deonar, to be implemented shortly. The scheme, which was expected to cost Rs. 1 crore, would be equipped with cold storage installation, waste elimination plant and latest equipment and machinery for processing by-products.

Stray Dogs Problem

The Mayor said that another problem which had been engaging the attention of the Corporation was the seizure and destruction of stray dogs in the city. **He said that about 12,000 dogs were caught and another 10,000 destroyed annually in the city.** The present method of cathing dogs was far from humane and numerous complaints had been received on this score. He suggested the veterinary medical practitioners to consider whether it would be feasible to castrate dogs to prevent indiscriminate propagation.

Horse Is Neglected

Mr. Kader also deplored the fact that the horse, which was a vehicular means of transport in a vast country like India, should be neglected and that the horse-breeding industry should be allowed to degenrate. He made a strong plea for efforts to give a great impetus to horse-breeding industry.

Corporation Loans

The two loans of the Bombay Municipal Corporation issued in October — one for Rs. 1.1 crores and the other for Rs. 40 lakhs—were over subscribed within three hours after the opening of the lists on October 15. Subscription to the issues, which carry an interest of 4 per cent and are repayable in 1968, had totalled Rs. 1.79 crores. Keeping in view the right of the Corporation to keep subscriptions up to 5 per cent in excess of the amount offered, the authorities have decided to accept applications for Rs. 3 lakhs and below in full and to give partial allotment for applications in excess of three lakhs.

It is significant that the success of these issues at an issue price of Rs. 99/8/- has been such, while many of the 12-year and 11-year State loans have sellers at Rs. 99. It was to the credit of the authorities that the two successful issues were handled departmentally, unlike recent years.

Bombay Corporation By-Elections

The offer of the Bombay Pradesh Congress Committee President, Mr. S. K. Patil, not to put up candidates for the by-elections to seats in the Municipal Corporation rendered vacant by resignations on the Samyukta Maharashtra issue, has taken away much of the interest from the by-elections to be held shortly. Forty-two of the 44 seats to which by-elections are to be held were rendered vacant by resignations. The Congress will "help" those who resigned their seats to be re-elected.

Poona Corporation Advisory Committee

Bombay Government has appointed an Advisory Committee of 14 members to assist the Municipal Commissioner of Poona in the administration of the Corporation. The State Government took over the administration of the Poona Corporation a few months ago, following the resignation of 64 of its members on the issue of States reorganisation. Nine of the members of the Advisory Committee are former councillors of the Corporation, and include two ex-Mayors. Of the remaining five, one is former Chairman of the State Public Service Commission.

Postponement of Ahmedabad Elections

Postponement of by-elections to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation on the ground that the atmosphere in the city was still disturbed, was severely criticised by Opposition members in the Bombay Legislative Assembly on November 28. Several members speaking on the Bill "to provide for the postponement of the by-elections to fill casual vacancies", said that the move amounted to a negation of democracy. One of the members said how General Elections would be held in February-March next year if the civic elections could not be held till April 30, the atmosphere being tense according to the Government. Moving the Bill to postpone the by-elections to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, the Minister for

Local Self-Government, Mr. G. D. Tapase, told the House that life in Ahmedabad city had not yet returned to normal. Though the Bill sought to postpone the by-elections, the Government was also seeking powers to order by-elections before April 30, 1957, the date of expiry of the present term of the civic body, if the situation in Ahmedabad improved.

Sholapur Council's Term Extended

The term of office of the councillors of the Sholapur Borough Municipality has been extended by the Government of Bombay up to June 30, 1957. This has been done in view of the fact that it is not possible to hold elections immediately on the basis of the recently revised constitution of the Municipality.

Nagpur's Glamour Goes

Shorn of its prestige as a State capital, Nagpur is now slowly settling down to its new role as headquarters of a division of Bombay State. Mr. L. G. Rajwade is the new Divisional Officer.

Owing to scarcity of accommodation in Bhopal, all offices of the new Madhya Pradesh Government are still functioning in Nagpur. It was officially stated that all Madhya Pradesh offices will be in Nagpur for at least six months. They will be housed in the new Secretariat, which was built a year ago. The offices of the Bombay State, which have not yet been set up, will be shifted to the old Secretariat. Owing to the existence of two sets of offices in the same building, there was considerable confusion.

Mr, Rajwade has announced that the integration of Vidarbha will take six months.

Nagpur Civic Receptions

The Nagpur Municipal Corporation at its meeting on November 15 decided to present civic addresses to the Chief Minister, Mr. Y.B. Chavan, and to Sardar Hukum Singh, Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and Mr. Deoprasad Ghosh, President of the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, who are expected to visit Nagpur in December.

Telephones For Councillors

The Nagpur Municipal Corporation at its meeting on November 15 decided to install telephones in the residences of each of its 57 members.

No Bonus For Baroda Electric Workers

The Supreme Court allowing on Nov. 13 the appeal of the Baroda Borough Municipality against its workmen and rejecting their claim for bonus stated that the principles for the payment of bonus in a business undertaking as enunciated in the case of Muir Mills could not possibly be applied to a municipal enterprise. The Baroda Electric Supply Concern was taken over by the Baroda Municipality in 1949 after the merger of the State with Bombay. In 1951 the workmen of the Electricity Department of the municipality raised a demand for payment of bonus out of the surplus income of the electricity undertaking, but this was rejected by the Industrial Tribunal to which a reference of the the dispute was made under the Industrial Disputes Act. The decision of the Industrial Tribunal was reversed in appeal by the Labour Appellate Tribunal which held first that the Electricity Department of the municipality could be considered as a distinct undertaking for the purpose of calculating profits ; and secondly that the principles applicable to a private or public business concern as laid down by the Supreme Court in the case of Muir Mills were equally applicable to a municipality.

The Supreme Court examining the provisions of the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act found that the property and money of the municipality was held in trust by the Committee to be expended on purposes permissible under the Act, which were partly obligatory and partly discretionary. Having regard to this could the Electricity Department and its income be treated separately from other departments and could the money so derived be used for the benefit of employees of that Department only ? The Court held that "in our opinion such a treatment of the income of one department of the municipality would be clearly against the provisions of the Municipal Act. The different activities of the Baroda Municipality constituted one integrated whole and the activities of the different departments of the municipality were not distinct or unconnected so as to permit the isolation of one department from another". In view of this the grant

of bonus to the employees of a single department based on the calculation of income of that department alone could not be upheld.

Amreli Council Superseded

Bombay Government has superseded the Amreli Municipal Council with effect from November 1 Mr. G. S. Kate, Mamlatdar of Ghoghe, has been appointed administrator of the municipality. Twelve Congressmen and an equal number of Socialists were elected on the council in 1954. All the Congress members resigned recently on the ground that they could not render any useful work for the town under the present set-up of the municipality. One member was disqualified some time ago.

Broach Water Supply

The Government of Bombay has sanctioned Rs. 21,51,104 to the Broach Borough Municipality for the execution of its water supply scheme. The amount will cover one-third of the total estimated cost of the scheme.

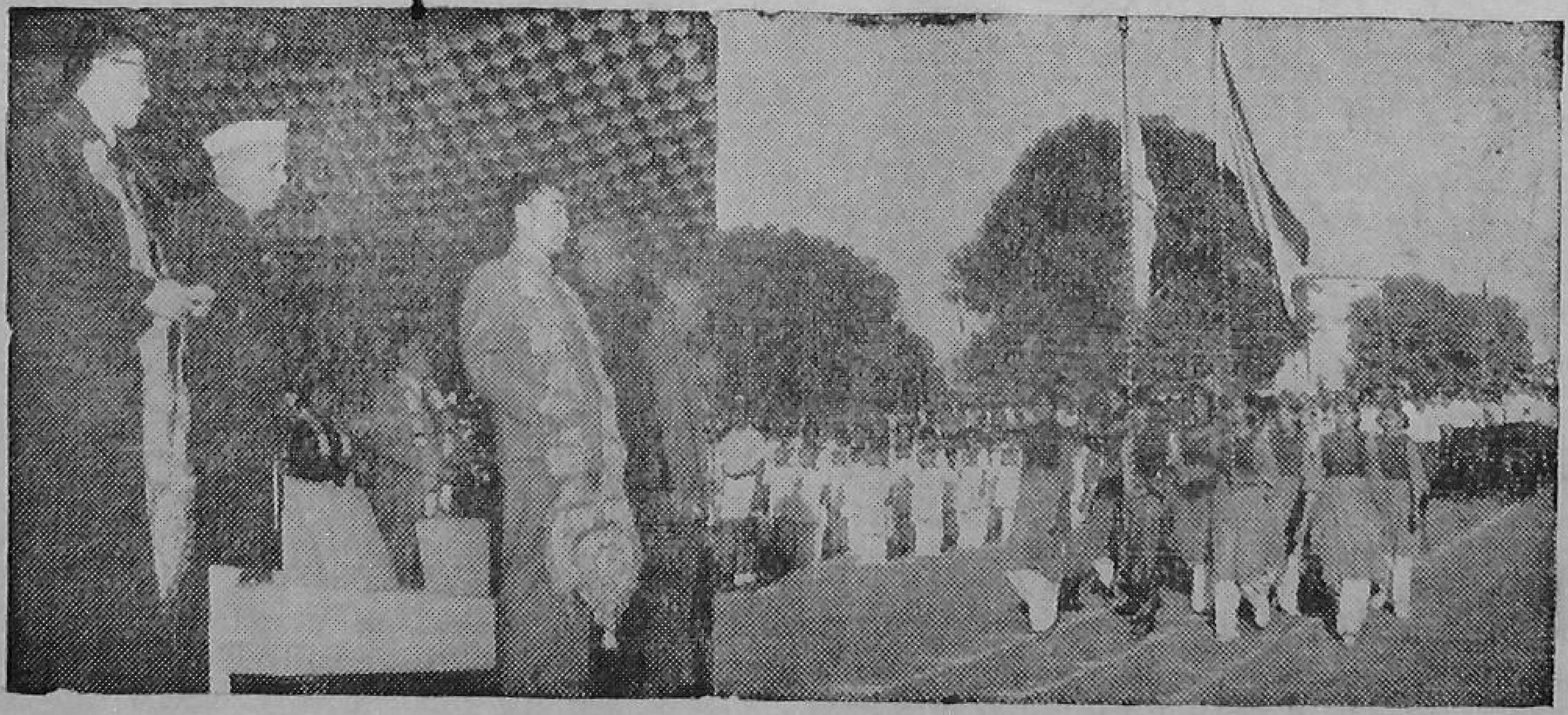
Delhi

From State To Union Territory

On November 1 Delhi ceased to be a Part "C" State and became a Centrally administered territory. Mr. A. D. Pandit, the Chief Commissioner of the former State, is the first Administrator of this Union Territory and he continues to be designated as Chief Commissioner.

Advisory Committee

The President of India on November 8 constituted an advisory committee for the Union territory of Delhi. The committee will be associated with the Minister of Home Affairs who will be responsible for the administration of the Union territories. The committee will consist of all members of Parliament representing Delhi—the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi, the President of the Delhi Municipal Committee and the Senior Vice-President of the New Delhi Muuicipal Committee.



H.E. MR. CHOU EN-LAI IN DELHI

Mr. Chou En-lai, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama accompanied by the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, reviewed the Parade of over 3,000 displaced boys and girls at the Children's Park, New Delhi, on November 29.

In the photo: His Holiness the Dalai Lama; the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, H. E. Mr. Chou En-lai; Shri J. K. Bhonsle, Union Deputy Minister for Rehabilitation: and Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, Union Minister for Rehabilitation.

The Committee, shall be consulted in regard to general question of policy relating to the administration of the territory in the State field ; all legislative proposals concerning the territory in regard to matters in the State List including proposals to extend any State Acts to the territory, such matters relating to the annual financial statement of the Union in so far as it concerns the territory and such other financial questions as may be specified in rules prescribed by the President; and any other matter on which it may be considered necessary or desirable by the Home Minister that the Advisory Committee be consulted.

Subject to the discretion of the Home Minister to refuse in the public interest to give information or to allow discussion, members of the Advisory Committee will have rights in regard to interpellations analogous to and under similar limitations as those of members of a State legislature.

The Advisory Committee will meet at intervals of not more than three months.

The Home Minister will preside at the meetings of the Advisory Committee.

Meetings of the Advisory Committee will be regulated by such rules of procedure as may be framed by the Home Minister in consultation with the Advisory Committee.

Demand For Greater Democracy

The Delhi State PSP conference, held on November 17 and 18 under the presidentship of Mr. Mustaq Ahmed, passed a resolution condemning the action of the Government in depriving the people of Delhi of a democratic set-up, suggesting the democratisation of the Advisory Committee for Delhi and warning against the imposition of a truncated corporation.

The resolution alleged that the Congress Working Committee acted in a Fascits manner by ignoring the wishes of the people of Delhi and assured the people of the Party's continued efforts to secure full democratic rights for them.

The proposed Advisory Committee for Delhi, the resolution added, should have the right of discussing the budget.

Delhi Corporation

The task of drafting a Bill to set up a Corporation for Delhi, has been entrusted to Mr. M. D. Bhat, I.C.S., Chairman of the Board of Film Censors, and a former Commissioner of Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Mr. Bhat is being assisted by Mr. Ishwar Dayal, Secretary, Delhi Municipal Committee, who has joined the special wing of the Home Ministry which is drafting the Bill. Mr. Dayal is associated with Mr. A. V. Venkatasubban, Deputy Secretary, Health Ministy, and an officer from the Law Ministry.

Prior to the setting up of the Delhi State Government in terms of the Part 'C' States Act, there was a move to set up a Corporation. Mr. Dayal had then drafted a gigantic Bill running into hundred of clauses. That Bill was pigeon-holed after the State Government came into being.

Delhi Municipal Committee at its meeting on October 31, decided to request the Central Government to reimburse the Committee the amounts of salary drawn by Mr. Ishwar Dayal for the period he works under the Union Health Ministry.

The Corporation Bill is expected to be ready in June.

Kabul Mayor's Visit

Mr. R. N. Aggarwal, President of the Delhi Municipal Committee on October 30, presented a silver cup to the Mayor of Kabul, Dr. Suhail. He was shown round the Mrs. Girdharilal Maternity Hospital, the Social Education Centre on Queen's Road, and the Foundling Home and the Meternity and Child Welfare Centre in Daryaganj. He also visited the Roshanara Gardens and a shopping centre at Azadpur.

Dr. Suhail said that, as one engaged in modernizing Kabul, he was very interested in construction activities in Delhi.

Prime Minister's Birth Day

Nearly 100,000 childern assembled at the National Stadium on November 14 to participate in a Children's Day rally, which coincided with the Prime Minister's 67th

birthday celebrations. The children gave Mr. Nehru an enthusiastic ovation. As he arrived at the stadium, shouts of "Chacha Nehru Zindabad" rent the air. He was received by 67 members of the children's reception committee and was garlanded by a boy and a girl. The Prime Ministers of Burma, Ceylon and Indonesia and a large number of delegates to the UNESCO conference were among the special invitees. The Prime Minister, accompanied by the State Chief Commissioner, Mr. A. D. Pandit, and two children went round in an open jeep bedecked with flowers to enable the children sitting tier upon tier in the arena to have a close view of their beloved "uncle."

Civic Reception To Unesco Delegates

Delhi Municipal Committee accorded a civic reception to the delegates to the ninth session of the General Conference of UNESCO on November 14 at Diwan-e-Am in the Red Fort. In his address of welcome, Mr. R. N. Aggarwal, President of the DMC, expressed his gratitude to UNESCO for the gifts that the city of Delhi had received from it in the past. In particular, they have welcomed a pilot library which was established in Delhi some years ago.

Replying on behalf of the delegates. Mr. Bulajic, leader of the Yugoslav delegation, said it was a "wonderful idea" to hold the ninth session in India. As one of the main items of the programme was to develop better relationship between countries of different regions, it was appropriate that UNESCO should have met in the East.

Civic Honour For Mr. Morarji Desai

A reception was accorded on November 22 in the Talkatora Gardens, New Delhi, to Mr. Morarji Desai, Union Minister of Commerce and Heavy Industries on behalf of the citizens of Delhi. Mr. Desai was garlanded on behalf of the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee, the Delhi Municipal Committee and the New Delhi Municipal Committee. An address of welcome, read out by the President of the Delhi Municipal Committee, Mr. R. N. Agarwal, recalled Mr. Desai's services in the struggle for freedom nd more particularly as Chief Minister of ombay and his courageous stand during e disturbances in Bombay and Ahmedabad.

CHILDREN FELICITATE UNCLE NEHRU

A large number of Delhi School children took part in the mass rally held at the National Stadium, New Delhi, to felicitate the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru on the occasion of his birthday on November 14.

In the photo, the Prime Minister is shown releasing a white pigeon, the symbol of peace, amidst cheers from the large gathering at the Stadium. This was followed by a release of 67 pigeons by a group of Children to mark Shri Nehru's 67th birthday.

Chinese Premier's Visit

Delhi Municipal Committee gave a civic reception to the Chinese Premier, Mr. Chou En-lai, on November 30 at the Ramlila Grounds. The address, which was printed in Hindi and Chinese, was read by Mr. R. N. Agarwal, President of the Delhi Municipal Committee.

At the invitation of the Government of India Mr. Chou-En-lai, Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China visited India from November 28 to December 10. Besides Delhi, he also visited Bombay, Poona, Bangalore, Madras and Calcutta.

Dalai Lalma's Visit

The Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama arrived in Delhi on November 25 at the invitation of the working Committee for the Buddha Jayanti Celebration. They stay in India till December 30. The Dalai Lama called on the President, Vice-Presiden. and the Prime Minister, attended a symposium on Buddhism's Corbrilation to Arts, Letters and Philosophy. The Prime Minister gave a banquet in honour of Dalai Lama on November 27.

DALAI LAMA ARRIVES IN DELHI

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, arrived in New Delhi on November 25 to participate in the 2,500th Buddha Jayanti Celebrations and the Symposium. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Vice-President of India and the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru received His Holiness on arrival at the Palam airport. Also seen in the photo is Hon'ble U Nu former Prime Minister of Burma.

Keeping Clean School Approaches

The Delhi Municipal Committee at a special meeting on November 17 decided to delegate powers under Section 173 of the Punjab Municipal Act to the heads of municipal schools to remove any vendor of articles of food from pavements and roads within a radius of 220 years of the schools. The powers, which will come into force immediately, will be for one year. The powers are not, however, being delegated to heads of recognised private schools because the Committee could not exercise any control over them and as such it would "not be free from danger to invest outsiders with any powers" under the section.

N. D. M. C. Oppose Bifurcation of Roads

The New Delhi Municipal Committee at its meeting on November 9 decided to ask the Ministry of Transport to bifurcate roads in the capital only after approval by the civic body.

Shahjahan Road, near India Gate, had been bifurcated by the Central PWD under the advice of the Ministry of Transport. The Committee considered that it was not very desirable to divide the road as it was narrow. Hedges have been grown on the central strip of the road and the Deputy Director of Horticulture had sought the sanction of the Committee for Rs. 2,515 to provide hydrants for the supply of water in the strip, The Committee agreed to the maintenance of the hedges, already grown, as it was felt that it would not be desirable to dismantle the central strip dividing the road.

The Committee decided to rename Queensway Lane as Janpath Lane.

Advertisement Tax

The South Delhi Municipal Committee proposes to impose an advertisement tax under Sub-Section 2 of the Punjab Municipal Act and a profession tax, and to revise the rate of tax on milch cattle. The Taxation Enquiry Commission had recommended the Local Bodies to levy a tax on advertisements

other than those published in newspapers. According to the proposal every person who erects, exhibits, fixes, paints, carries or retains upon or over any land, building, wall, structure or vehicle any advertisement or who displays any advertisements to the public view in any manner whatsoever in any place, shall pay the tax. The rates suggested are about half those in force in Bombay. The income from this source is estimated at Rs. 5,000 a year. The net income from the proposed profession tax is estimated at Rs. 49,000 per annum. By raising the tax on milch cattle, the income from this source will go up to Rs. 44,675 as against Rs. 17,870 from the existing rates.

Precautions Against Nepotism

The Chief Commissioner of Delhi on October 30 issued a circular to all Municipal Committees and Notified Area Committees prohibiting them from revising the existing scales of pay of their employees, creating new posts and granting, in advance, increments or special pay or any other pecuniary advantage. The step was taken when it was known to the Chief Commissioner that the local bodies in the State were contemplating such action.

Shahdara Municipal Criticism

The administration of Shahdara Municipal Committee came in for considerable criticism at the hands of the members of the Committee in its fortnightly meeting on October 27. The President, Mr. K.K. Batta, also joined in the complaints and expressed his inability to reply to the members' criticism. The Secretary of the Committee assured the members that he would look into the complaints.

A resolution adopted by a majority of the members strongly criticized the working of the Delhi Development (Provisional) Authority and accused it of only concerning itself with a few colonizers and neglecting the poor and lower middle classes. Another resolution, which was passed unanimously, accused the Delhi State Government with neglecting the development of the Shahdara town.

D. M. C. Appoints Consultants

The Delhi Municipal Committee has decided to appoint a firm of architects to advise it on new construction. The committee has a big programme for constructing staff quarters, schools, markets and dispensaries. It feels that for architectural effect, expert advice would be necessary, but it would be uneconomical to have a full-time staff of architects.

Himachal Pradesh

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee for Himachal Pradesh will consist of all members of Parliament representing Himachal Pradesh, the Lieut.-Governor, Himachal Pradesh, and a representative of the Bhakra Control Board. Raja Bajrang Bahadur Singh, who was the Lieut. Governor of the former Himachal Pradesh, has been appointed Administrator of this Union territory from November 1. He continues to be designated Lieut. Governor.

Power and Functions

The Advisory Committee will be consulted in regard to general questions of policy relating to the administration of the territory in the State field ; all legislative proposals concerning the territory in regard to matters in the State List including proposals to extend any State Acts to the territory ; such matters relating to the annual financial statement of the Union in so far as it concerns the territory and such other financial questions as may be specified in rules prescribed by the President ; and any other matter on which it may be considered necessary or desirable by the Minister of Home Affairs that the Advisory Committee should be consulted. Subject to the discretion of the Minister of Home Affairs to refuse in the public interest to give information or to allow discussion, members of the Advisory Committee will have rights in regard to interpellations analogous to and under similar limitations as those of members of a State legislature. The Advisory Committee will meet at intervals of not more than three months and the Minister of Home Affairs will preside at its meeting. The meetings will be regulated by such rules of procedure as may be framed by the Minister of Home Affairs in consultation with the Advisory Committee.

Similar powers and functions have been vested in the Advisory Committees for Manipur and Tripura.

Jammu & Kashmir

Constitution Signed

Members of the Kashmir Constituent Assembly on November 19 signed the State's constitution as passed by the Constituent Assembly on November 17.

Sadar-i-Riyasat's Election

The Constituent Assembly on November 8 had adopted six schedules of the State's Constitution. The first schedule relates to the method of election of the Sadar-i-Riyasat by the Legislative Assembly by the ballot system. After election, the Sadar-i-Riyasat's name will be communicated by the Prime Minister of the State to the President of India for recognition. According to the second schedule the Sadar-i-Riyasat will get a salary of Rs. 5,500 per month, besides annual allowances amounting to Rs. 1,09,000. He will also be entitled to a free furnished official residence, including staff quarters, free supply of water and electricity for domestic use, free motor vehicles and rent-free use of dak bungalows and rest houses maintained by the Govt.

Under the third schedule, the Speaker of the Assembly and the Chairman of the Council will get the same salaries and allowances as are payable to Ministers, while the Deputy Speaker will be paid according to the present rate. The salary and allowances of the Deputy Chairman of the Council will be fixed by the Sadar-i-Riyasat.

The fourth schedule fixes the salary of the Chief Justice of the High Court at Rs. 2,500 per month and of other High Court judges at Rs. 2,000 per month.

Regional Languages

The sixth schedule defines the regional languages of the State as Kashmiri, Dogri, Balti, Dardi, Punjabi, Pahari and Ladakhi. Urdu has already been declared as official language of the State.

"Govt. Thoroughly Democratic" Earl Attlee's Tribute

Earl Attlee, who visited India recently, in an article in the "Evening Star" of November 20, stated that "Kashmir has definitely opted for union with India". Of the present regime, he says, "It is thoroughly democratic with local self-government all the way up from the village". Earl Attlee said "Altogether my impression is that, judging by results, the present regime is successful. It is also thoroughly democratic with local self-government all the way up from the village. I think that Kashmir has definitely opted for union with India."

State With Two Capitals

The Government of this frontier State is a mobile one, almost the only one in India which functions for six months from one place and for the other six months from another.

Generally speaking, offices close in Srinagar in the first week of November and open in Jammu in the second week. Long before that the employees start thinking in terms of the warmer climate of Jammu against the cold, frost and the expected snowfall in Kashmir. Days before the move takes place, the disposal of cases slackens, files are packed and huge packing cases are trundled along the roads. On the day the move starts, vehicles start pulling up in the secretariat and the loading of office trunks and other equipment starts. Most of the furniture is, however, left behind because there are two sets—one for Jammu and the other for Srinagar.

The annual migration costs the Government about Rs. 4 lakhs.

Adverse Effect on Efficiency

The move, it is admitted, has an adverse effect on the efficiency of the Government machinery. For about two months a year it is greatly hampered at the top level first in anticipation of the move and then in settling down. To obviate this, it is suggested in some quarters that some offices should be permanently located in Jammu and others in Srinagar. According to this section of opinion, the move should be made by the Ministers, the Secretaries and the High Court only.

The annual move has, however, a political and practical justification. The rivalry bet-

ween Srinagar and Jammu is perhaps much more acute than, say, the rivalry between Gwalior and Indore, which till recently were the capitals of the Madhya Bharat State, which has ceased to exist from November 1.

Jammu and Kashmir is now the only State in India which has its capital in two cities. Any decision to stop the winter move to Jammu might be interpreted as a sign of indifference on the part of the Government towards the Dogras. Even a few weeks' delay in the move is adversely commented upon in Jammu.

The move is becoming more difficult every year as the number of Government employees increases with the expansion of the functions of the Government. This means increasing expenditure on the move though it is the secretariat and "direction offices" alone which go to Jammu this time of the season and return to Srinagar in the summer.

Social Welfare Board's Work

Mrs. Durgabai Deshmukh, Chairman of the Social Welfare Board, speaking in Hyderabad on October 22, said that girls in Kashmir were sold for the price of a goat. Recalling her recent visit to Kashmir, she said that girls even of five or six were given in marriage by their parents for the sake of a few rupees. Many suffered from venereal diseases. The Social Welfare Board, she said had rescued many girls by paying small amounts to owners. In the Kasturba Central Hindu and Muslim girls were working as sisters.

Kerala

Birth of New State

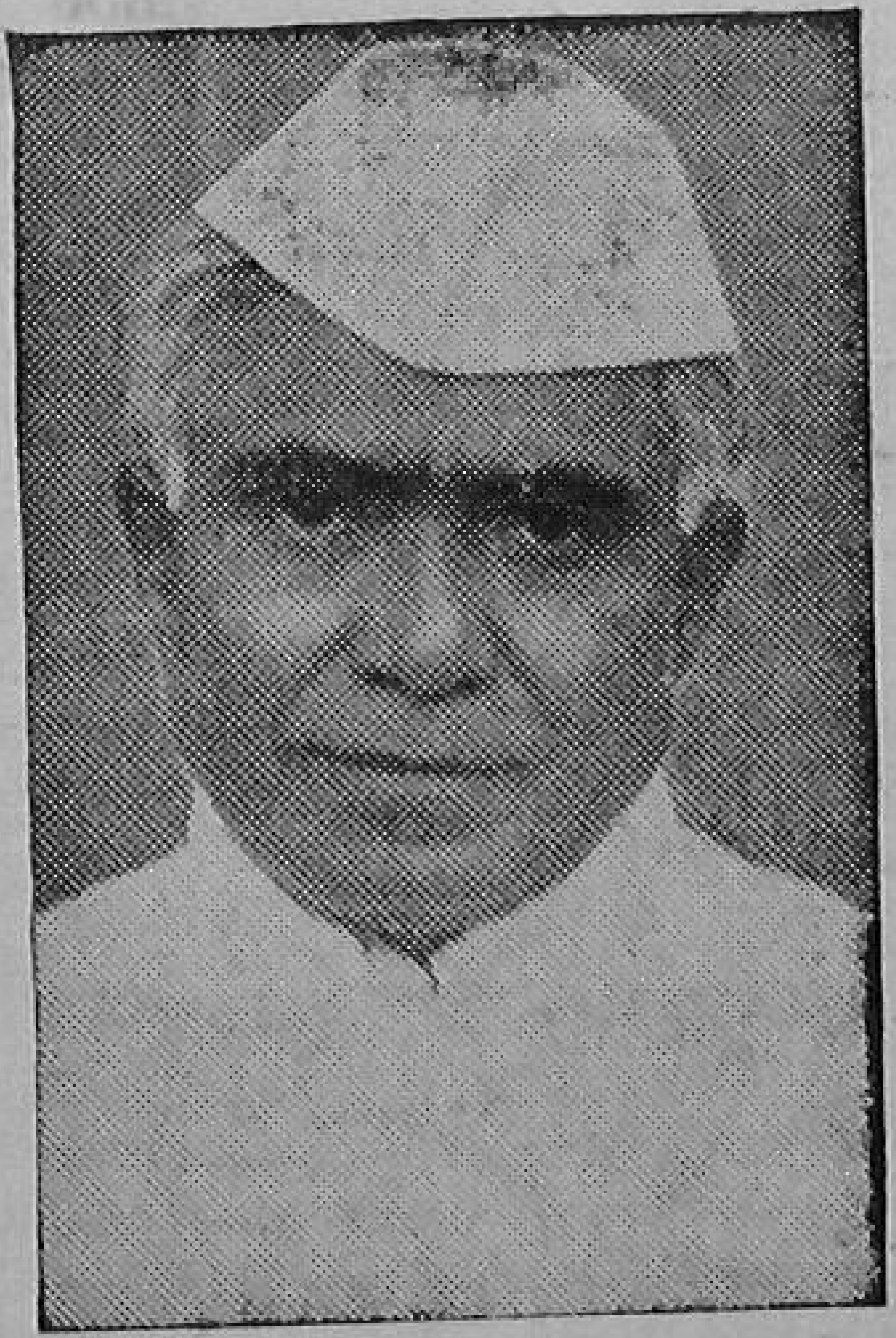
The long-cherished dream of 15 million Malayalam-speaking people became a reality on November 1 with the inauguration of the new Kerala State. Acting Governor, Mr. P. S. Rau, formally launched the new State. The Maharaja of Travancore, who laid down office as Travancore-Cochin Rajpramukh on October 31, did not attend the function at which the Chief Secretary read the warrant of appointment of Mr. P. S. Rau to discharge the functions of Governor of Kerala by the President of India.

President's Rule Continues

The President by a proclamation issued on November 1 assumed to himself all the functions of the new State of Kerala and all powers vested in or exercisable by the Governor of that State. The proclamation was necessitated by the reorganisation of Kerala whose main constituent, Travancore-Cochin, had been under President's rule since March, 1956. There will be no Legislative Assembly for the new State until such time as a general election is held for the purpose. By a separate order, also issued the same day, the functions and powers so assumed by the President had been delegated, subject to the superintendence, direction and control of the President, to the Governor of Kerala.

New Governor

Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao was sworn in as Governor of Kerala in Trivandrum on



Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao,
First Governor of Kerala State

November 22. On his arrival in Trivandrum on November 21, he assured the "greatest impartiality" in the administration of Kerala. He sought the co-operation of all political parties, including the non-Congress parties for the governance of Kerala, now under President's rule. Mr.

Rao will be assisted by an Adviser, the former Madras Chief Secretary, Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.

Mr. Rao said Kerala's first concern should be the establishment of a stable Government, by which they could march to prosperity. It would be a delicate task, because Kerala was "supposed to be a problem State".

Ernakulam Civic Address

Ernakulam Municipal Council presented civic addresses to the Governor of Kerala, Dr. B. Ramakrishna Rao and Mr. A. J. John, Governor-Designate of Madras, on November 29. Replying to the address, Dr. Rao said that Kerala, a beautiful land, was a land where political consciousness and probably economic backwardness went hand in hand together and existed in the same proportion.

Mr. Peter Correyya, Chairman of Ernakulam Municipal Council, presented the civic addresses.

Agitation For High Court Bench

The one-day general hartal and the boycott of courts by lawyers in Trivandrum on November 9, to protest against the abolition of Division Bench in Trivandrum, which was established in 1954, from November 1, with the formation of the State of Kerala, was a complete success. The call for hartal was given by leaders of all political parties. Shops and markets remained closed and most of the courts were practically deserted.

The Action Committee for the establishment of a Bench of the Kerala-High Court in Trivandrum hinted that it would resort to "direct action".

Lawyers' Hartal

Lawyers of Trivandrum began an indefinite boycott of courts on November 13 as an all-party demand for a High Court Division Bench in Trivandrum gained mass support. With the exception of Government pleaders, all lawyers and most litigants abstained from courts, where judges and magistrates called case numbers and posted them for another day.

Lawyers and volunteers wearing black badges picketed courts and also staged demonstrations. Mr. T. K. Narayana Pillai, a former Congress Chief Minister, in whose regime the Travancore-Cochin High Court was established in Ernakulam, led a slogan-shouting demonstration at one of the court gates.

Second Hartal

More than 300,000 persons, in an unprecedented demonstration, marched through the Trivandrum city on November 19, through rows of "closed shops and markets, yelling for a High-Court Bench and justice" for Trivandrum. The demonstration and the second hartal climaxed the "High Court Day", for the observance of which a call had been issued by a convention of various representative political bodies, held in Trivandrum on November 15.

Former Congress Chief Minister's Lead

The milling crowds, after marching in scorching sun, converged at the public maidan, where leaders addressed them. The former Congress Chief Minister, Mr. T. K. Narayan Pillai, led the longest procession, composed of leaders of all political parties in the State.

Angry Demonstration

The hartal had taken place ignoring the last minute appeal made by Acting Governor Mr. P. S. Rau, who bade farewell to Kerala on November 20.

Essential services, like Government offices, banks and transport services, were not affected. Angry masses of people demonstrated in towns and villages demanding the authorities to take immediate steps for the establishment of a permanent division Bench at Trivandrum.

Former Advocate General Arrested

Five lawyers and about 40 others were arrested by the Trivandrum police on November 24 on a charge of causing obstruction to judges and other staff by picketing at the gates of the City Courts. Those arrested included Mr. K. G. Kunhikrishna Pillai, a former Advocate-General of the erstwhile Travancore State.

Former Congress Ministers Arrested

A former Congress Minister of Travancore-Cochin, Mr. N. Kunjuraman, and 79

others were arrested on November 26 for picketing the gates of the former High Court in Trivandrum.

Another former Congress Minister, Mr. K.R. Elankath was among the 100 persons who courted arrest for picketing the High Court gates in Trivandrum on the third day of "direct action" on November 27. Lawyers, clerks, municipal councillors and members of various parties were among those arrested.

Governor's Appeal

The Governor, Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, announced on November 27 that the request for "a temporary" High Court Division Bench in Trivandrum would be favourably considered. He appealed to call off the 19-day-old mass movement and satyagraha which had caused the arrest of 261 volunteers.

The agitation, however was continuing.

Madhya Pradesh

New Cabinet

The new Madhya Pradesh Cabinet announced on October 31 by the Chief Minister, Pt. Ravi Shanker Shukla (81), consists of the following Ministers and Deputy Ministers :—(1) Pandit Ravi Shanker Shukla, (2) Sri B. A. Mandloi, (3) Sri Shankar Lal Tiwari, (4) Raja Naresh Chand, (5) Sri Ganeshram Anant, (6) Rani Padamvati of Khairagarh, (all from former Madhya Pradesh), (7) Sri Takhatmal Jain, (8) Sri Mishrilal Gangwal, (9) Sri V. V. Dravid, (from former Madhya Bharat), (10) Sri Shambhunath Shukla (V.P.), (11) Sri Shanker Dayal Sharma, (12) Maulana Tarzi Mashraqji (both from Bhopal).

A feature of the Ministry in the new Madhya Pradesh is that both husband and wife, Raja Virendra Bahadur Singh and Rani Padmavati Devi hold the post of Deputy Minister and Minister respectively.

Two New Corporations

On November 1 Gwalior and Indore Municipalities were raised to the status of Municipal Corporations. This was done by the Madhya Bharat Government under the Municipal Corporations Act passed early in October. Mr. Bhagwan Singh Arora, former Director of supplies, M. B. Government, has been appointed Commissioner of Gwalior Corporation.

Indore Mayor

Mr. Ishwarchandra Jain (Congress) was elected Mayor of the newly formed Indore City Municipal Corporation by 37 votes to 7 at a special meeting of the Corporation on November 7. Mrs. Nirmala Rani Podhar and Mr. Mathurlal Sharma were elected Deputy Mayor and Chairman of the Standing Committee, respectively.

Gwalior Mayoral Election

The newly-created Gwalior Municipal Corporation on November 14 unanimously elected Mr. V. M. Bhagat (Congress) Mayor and Mr. Kishanlal Batham (Jan Sangh) Deputy Mayor.

The election was held in the absence of most of the Congress councillors who arrived late for the meeting. The Congress Municipal Party, at its meeting a day earlier, had decided by a majority, to propose the name of Mrs. Chandrakala Sahai, former President of the Municipality, for the post of Mayor. The name of Mr. Bhagat, who was present at the Corporation meeting, with two other Congress members was proposed and seconded by Jan Sangh members.

The meeting also elected eight committees, including the standing committee and the appeals committee. All the elections were unanimous and one or two Congress councillors were elected to each of the eight committees.

Congress Members' Complaint

More Congress councillors entered the hall after the election of the Mayor and one of them objected to the "early start" of the meeting. The chairman ruled out the objection, saying that the meeting had started exactly at the stroke of three. Then all the Congress members left the chamber and the house proceeded to elect the Deputy Mayor and the committees in their absence. The Congress has a majority of two in the 50-member house.

Later the Congress councillors jointly sent a letter to the Commissioner of the

Corporation protesting against the "irregular" meeting.

Representation To Government

Congress members of Corporation afterwards sent a representation to the Madhya Pradesh Government urging suspension of the execution of the decisions taken by the Corporation on November 14, as they were "not in conformity with law". In a telegram to the Minister for Local Self-Government they said that non-Congress councillors started the meeting "10 minutes before the scheduled time and illegally conducted the elections of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Corporation committees". The Congress councillors, who were in a majority in the Corporation, were thus "debarred from taking part in the elections and the proceedings were illigal, unconstitutional and imperfect", the telegram added.

Gwalior Improvement Plans

Mr. Vishnu Bhagwat, Mayor of Gwalior, and Mr. B. S. Arora, Commissioner of the Corporation, at a Press Conference on November 26 said that 23 roads would be constructed shortly at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,05,925. A Cleanliness Week was being observed and a number of town improvement schemes would be proposed by the Corporation to the Government.

Survey of Local Bodies

Mr. B. R. Mandloi, Local Self-Government Minister of Madhya Pradesh, said in Bhopal on November 17 that detailed information about the working of the corporations and municipal boards of the areas merged with the State was being collected to formulate a uniform policy regarding the local bodies. He said that proposals for holding elections to municipal boards, which were superseded by the erstwhile State Governments, would be considered after the required information had been received at the headquarters.

Bhopal Municipal Board

The Minister said that the Bhopal Municipal Board, which was being administered by the Government since its supersession in 1952 might be reorganised in the light of the requirements of the capital city. The city would be developed and a plan drawn up for this purpose.

Madras

New Governor

Mr. A. J. John, former Chief Minister of of Travancore-Cochin, was sworn in as Governor of Madras on December 3.

Tribute To Madras State

Mr. Sri Prakasa, the out-going Governor of Madras, was given a farewell reception in Madras on November 25. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari presented to Mr. Sri Prakasa, Governor-designate of Bombay, a silver plate as a token of "their esteem and affection".

Mr. Sri Prakasa, speaking at the citizens' farwell party said Madras State was the centre of art, architecture, poetry, drama and dance. "I shall tell the people in the North that they should go to the South if they want to know their past and understand it for themselves", he observed. "All these years I have spent in Madras have been a source of great education for me and I feel that I am a fuller man today, than I was ever before", he added.

New Mayor of Corporation

Mr. K. N. Srinivasan (42), a nominee of the Congress party, was elected Mayor of Madras Corporation on November 27 by 53 votes to 15. Mr. K. Ramdoss, also a nominee of the Congress party, was unanimously elected Deputy Mayor.

The long established convention of unanimous election of the Mayor, was broken for the second year in succession, when the Nationalist Municipal Party boycotted an informal meeting of the City Councillors and set up its own candidates.

According to the convention governing the mayoral rotation, the Mayor for 1956-57 was to be a Non-Brahmin Councillor.

Replying to the felicitations by over 40 Councillors, the new Mayor pledged himself to solve the problem of slums, improve amenities to North Madras, remove cattle from residential areas and reduce the rigour of the profeesion tax on low income groups.

Outgoing Mayor's Review

Reviewing the work done by the Madras Corporation during 1955-56 on the occassion

of his laying down office, Mr. V. R. Ramanatha Iyer, outgoing Mayor, regretted that lack of finance wa. the main problem facing the civic body. He said there was need to economise on expenditure and turn out work more quickly. Mr. Ramanatha Iyer said: during his Mayoralty the Cycle tax was abolished and the Marina fore-shore was flood lit. As for steps to give relief to beggers and those suffering from leprosy, the Mayor said the Madras City Council for Child Welfare was inaugurated in December 1955. The problem of juvenile begging was being tackled by this body.

Madras Corporation In 1955-56

Mr. D. Balasundaram, Commissioner of the Corporation of Madras, in the administration report of the Corporation for 1955-56, has stated that careful husbanding of resources, prompt collection of taxes and fees and the ex-gratia grant of Rs. 5 lakhs from Government had enabled the Corporation to balance the budget. The current collection of property tax was the highest on record, namely, Rs. 1,50,30,155, the percentage of collection to demand being 97.61. Receipts under Revenue Account alone came to Rs. 268.45 lakhs, whereas expenditure was Rs. 246.45 lakhs.

The ways and means problem of the Corporation did not present much difficulty in view of the over-draft facilities obtained from the Indian Bank Ltd. and the United Commercial Bank Ltd. Government loans aggregating to Rs. 48.17 lakhs were received during the year. The Corporation also raised the second instalment of the private loan of Rs. 14.5 laks for improving the extended areas.

Slum Improvement

The comprehensive scheme of slum improvement could not be implemented for want of financial help from Government. The original scheme for Rs. 4.19 crores was subsequently revised to Rs. 3 crores under the Second Plan. For speedy execution of the work it was mutually agreed to between the Corporation and the City Improvement Trust that the former would undertake the improvement of slums in North Madras and the latter in South Madras with River Cooum as demarcating boundary. Pending sanction of the Second Plan scheme, a scheme for Rs. 67 lakhs for the development of 12 slums on Government lands, two on Corporation lands and 12 on private lands had been sent to Government with the request to provide 50% loan and 50% as grant.

The Commissioner said that the increasing number of slums in the city was a menace to its sanitation. Essential amenities, such as water supply, drainage, etc., were provided in some of the slums out of the available balance under the private loan of Rs. 30 lakhs raised in the open-market during 1951-52 and 1952-53. On receipt of Government help, slum improvement work would be taken up and given top priority.

Beggar Nuisance

The Corporation was trying its utmost to mitigate the beggar nuisance by maintaining a Poor House and a Special Home for the diseased and the infirm.

Compulsory Primary Education

The number of Corporation elementary schools at the end of the year was 275 with a total strength of 87,583. The number of school-age children in the City in 1926 was only 48,115 and when the scheme of compulsory elementary education was introduced. Now there were as many as 1,45,180 children of school-age.

The total length of underground sewers laid in the City so far was 425.73 miles. The refuse collected and disposed of amounted roughly to 3,71,984 tons.

Better Street Lighting

The Corporation istalled a record number of mercury discharge lamps totalling 529 in main throughfares and important junctions, thus raising the total number of M. D. lamps in the city to 2,828. Besides this, 832 incandescent lamps on cast-iron lamp posts were also installed.

Second Plan Schemes

Concluding, Mr. Balasundaram said: "Important schemes of the Corporation pertaining to roads, bridges, slum improvement, water supply and drainage, lighting and construction of school buildings, costing Rs. 1,229.25 lakhs were prepared and submitted to Government for inclusion in their Second Plan.

But Government have made a provision of Rs. 493 lakhs only in regard to the schemes pertaining to works, water supply and drainage. As the schemes formulated by the Corporation are all essential to the community, Government have been requested to include all the schemes in the Second Plan."

Improvement of Roads

Mr. Balasundaram, Commissioner of Madras Corporation, has accorded sanction for immediate re-laying and thorough improvement of roads in the City at a cost of Rs. 3.75 lakhs. The Commissioner pointed out that the main roads and important secondary roads in the city are in a very bad condition.

Open Air Theatre

The foundation-stone of Madras Corporation's Open Air Theatre at Egmore stadium was laid by the Education Minister, Mr. Subramaniam on November 16. The Open Air Theatre stadium the first of its kind in the city is estimated to cost the Corporation Rs. 35,000. It will accommodate 5,000 persons.

Mr. Subramaniam, pointed out the useful part such theatres could play in promoting the artistic talents of their people and in providing entertainment to the poorer sections of the people.

The Mayor, Mr. V. R. Ramanatha Iyer, said if they had such a theatre in each division of the city, it would greatly help in promoting the cultural activities of the citizens.

Civic Reception To Rotary President

The Madras Corporation on November 24 accorded a civic reception to the visiting President of the Rotary International, Rtn. Gian Paolo Lang. Recalling his early visit, Mr. Lang said he was much fascinated with the beauty of this great country, its lovable people and their culture.

Advertisement Tax Held Illegal

Mr. Justice P. Rajagopalan of the Madras High Court on November 21 declared illegal the tax imposed by the Madras Corporation at the rate of Rs. 20 a month on each advertisement exhibited on screens by means of roll films in the cinema houses in the City of Madras, on the ground that it was a new tax and that the Corporation had imposed it without satisfying the provisions of Section 98 (A) (1) of the Municipal Act, under which the taxing authority had to issue a preliminary notification, provide an opportunity to persons likely to be affected by the proposed tax to make their representations and also to consider these representations before deciding to levy the tax.

In 1937 the Corporation had decided to levy a tax on advertisements, and the necessary preliminaries were gone through. It was, however, admitted by the respondent that at no time after 1938 was any tax levied by the Corporation on advertisement by means of roll films exhibited on the screen in cinema houses. The Corporation had originally decided to levy a fixed rate of Rs. 1/4/- per slide per calender month, and in January, 1941, it had raised the rate of Rs. 2/8/- a month.

His lordship said that what was authorised in 1938 was a tax on advertisement exhibited on screens by means of lantern slides 'or similar devices'.

His lordship was unable to accept the contention that the tax on roll films was covered by the word, similer devices and was an old tax authorised in 1938.

Civic Address For Communist Leader

The Vellore Municipal Council on November 20 decided to present a civic address to Mr. P. Ramamoorthy, Communist Party leader and leader of the Opposition in the State Assembly.

Municipal Chairmen Urge Acceptance of White Paper Proposals

The Executive Committee of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen, at its meeting in Madras on November 28, urged the Madras Government to give immediate effect to the proposals contained in the White Paper on local administration, (reported in the last issue of the *Civic Affairs*) so that they might come into force before the elections. It was also suggested that a joint committee of members of the legislature be formed to

examine the other recommendations made by the C. S. R. Committee, together with the proposals of the Executive Committee and the conference of the Chamber of Municipal Chairmen. Mr. K. N. Palaniswami Gounder, M. L. C., and President of the Chamber was in the chair.

Taxes For Local Bodies

The Government was urged to reconsider their decision that the proposal to levy a fee of Rs. 10 per seat in a bus per quarter was impracticable, and in the alternative, to permit the levy of a 'wheel tax' as suggested by the Taxation Enquiry Committee.

The executive pointed out that the grant made to municipalities for loss of revenue under tolls continued to be the amount fixed long ago, and needed to be revised. It was suggested that the grant made to the Municipalities from Motor Vehicles taxes should be increased by at least one-fourth of the amount, and that the grant might be disbursed to the several Municipalities on the basis of an investigation of probable amount that would be required every year by each Municipality for the proper maintenance of roads, according to the length and conditions of roads in each of them.

In an another resolution, it was stated that the resources of the Municipalities were inelastic and direct taxation in the circumstances was essential. A terminal tax on long distance railway passengers was recommended.

The Chamber also urged that a terminal tax on goods by railway may be allowed to be levied, as also on goods carried by road.

The Committee also claimed a share in the proceeds of sales tax, as recommended by the Zonal Finance Enquiry Committee.

D. A. For Staff

It was also urged that a specific grant should be made for payment of dearness allowance to the Municipal staff at the State Government rates.

The Chamber requested the Government to take steps to evolve a method for the grant of subsidies to Municipalities for slum clearance work as they were doing in the case of panchayat boards.

Renaming of State

Madras Socialist Party will contest 40 to 45 seats in the State Assembly. The party's current demands are that the State should be renamed Tamil Nad and all pattadars required to pay ten rupees or less as land revenue should be exempted from *kist*.

Manipur

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee for Manipur will consist of all members of Parliament representing Manipur, the Chief Commissioner of Manipur and members of the Council of Advisers associated with the Chief Commissioner of Manipur. The Chief Commissioner of Manipur, Mr. P. C. Mathew, has been appointed Administrator for the territory and will continue to be designated Chief Commissioner.

Mysore

New Cabinet

A 12-man Cabinet for the new State of Mysore, headed by Mr. S. Nijalingappa, was sworn in on November 1 by the Governor of the State, the Maharaja of Mysore. The Ministers are: Mr. S. Nijalingappa (Chief Minister), Mr. Kadidal Manjappa, Mr. A. B. Shetty, Mr. M. P. Patil, Mr. C. M. Poonacha, Mr. H. S. Rudrappa, Mr. Jagannatha Rao Chanderke, Mr. T. Mariappa, Mr. M. V. Rama Rao, Mr. R. Chennigiramiah. Mr, A. Bheemappa Naik, and Mr. H. K. Veeranna Gowda.

Mr. Kadidal Manjappa and Mr. C. M. Poonacha have been Chief Ministers of Mysore and Coorg respectively. Mr. M. P. Patil and Mr. A. B. Shetty have served in the Bombay and Madras Cabinets respectively for long periods. Mr. H. S. Rudrappa was till now Speaker of the Mysore Legislative Assembly. Mr. T. Mariappa and Mr. R. Chennigiramiah were members of the first Mysore Ministry under the leadership of Mr. K. C. Reddy.

Bangalore Corporation's Life Extended

Under an ordinance issued on November 14, the life of the Bangalore Municipal Corporation has been extended by a year. Elections to the Corporation were to have

been held in the third week of December. The Chief Secretary to the Mysore Government, Mr. V. R. Rao, said that the postponement of the elections was intended to enable the Government to level up the electoral strength of municipal constituencies. At present, the strength ot the constituencies varies from 2,000 to 17,000.

Orissa

Dr. Hare Krushna Mahatab's Cabinet

The strength of the new Council of Ministers, which was sworn in on October 19, is 9 as against 12 in the previous Ministry, headed by Mr. N. K. Choudhury. The Ministery consists of:—

Dr. H. K. Mahatab, Chief Minister; Mr. Radhanath Rath, Mr. Satyapriya Mahanti and Mr. Kishore Chandra Deobhanj of Daspalla, Ministers ; and Shrimati Basanta Manjari Devi, Mr. Nilamani Routrai, Mr. Santanu Kumar Das, Mr. Krupanidhi Naik and Mr. Anup Singh Deo, Deputy Ministers.

Puri Temple's Superintendent

Gajpati Raja Ramchandra Deb of Puri, the hereditary Superintendent of the world-famous temple of Lord Jagannath, died in Puri on November 15. The Raja of Puri has several religious functions connected with the Temple of Lord Jagannath, including the sweeping of the floors of the holy cars of the deities of the Temple before they are dragged for the annual Car festival.

According to an ancient custom, the body of the Raja was placed in a closed palanquin and carried by 24 priests of the Temple (called Karan Sevaks) to the Swargadwar on the beach. The body then enclosed in the palanquin was placed on the funeral pyre and consumed by the flames.

Pondicherry

1957-58 Budget

Mr. Kewal Singh, Chief Commissioner, Pondicherry State, inaugurating the Representative Assembly on November 5, said that they envisaged spending Rs. 130 lakhs on various development projects in the State in the coming year. For 1957-58 revenue was estimated at Rs. 1,13,51,400 and expenditure at Rs. 3,30,19,000.

Souvenir of Indo-French Friendship

Mr. Kewal Singh praised the wise and friendly decision of French Government in transferring these establishments to the Government of India after peaceful negotiations. Pondicherry would remain for ever a "souvenir of Indo-French friendship", and the people of Pondicherry would always preserve their French cultural heritage which would give Pondicherry a special place in the Indian Union, he said.

Delay In Ratification of Cessation Treaty

The Prime Minister informed the Lok Sabha on November 12 that "no events anywhere need come in the way of the ratification (by France) of the treaty of cession of the French settlements in India except in so far as the French Government is too pre-occupied with other events". He was replying to a question whether the recent developments in West Asia would retard the ratification of this treaty. Earlier, the Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Mr. A. K. Chanda, had told another questioner that the French Government had not indicated to the Government of India any time schedule for the ratification of this treaty. The Government of India had, however, been informed that the question of ratification was at present being considered by the French Government.

No Difficulty in Administration

The Prime Minister informed the House that a copy of the treaty would be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha after ratification. Answering further supplementaries, the Prime Minister said that there was no difficulty in the administration of the former French posssssions because of the time taken for the ratification of the treaty. "But there is this difficulty — giving final shape to things", he added.

Mr. Nehru told Mr. H. V. Kamath that it was not proposed to bring the laws in these former French possessions wholly in line with those in the rest of India. "In fact, we have given assurances that a number of their laws will continue and we do not wish to change those laws which have prevailed there for so many years. It is for them (the people in the possessions) to recommend what changes should be made. Some changes have been made."

New Chief Commissioner

Mr. M. K. Kripalani, who took charge on November 16 as Chief Commissioner of Pondicherry State from Mr. Kewal Singh, stressed the development side of the work now lying ahead of the State Mr. Kripalani declined to answer questions on the future of the State and if it would be ultimately integrated with the Madras State.

Merger with Madras

He would not commit himself as to when the *de jure* transfer would take place, he was not prepared to hazard any surmise about the future beyond recognizing the fact that a territory which was surrounded on all sides by the Madras State must have more things in common with it.

Mr. Kewal Singh, outgoing Chief Commissioner, who came to Pondicherry three years ago as the India Government's Consul-General in what was then the French territory, and saw its *de facto* transfer within a year to India, was of the opinion that the *de jure* transfer was now only "a matter of short time", and was only subject to the convenience of the French Government to go through the remaining formalities.

Greater Powers for Chief Councillor

At a meeting of the Legislature Congress Party held on November 16, it was decided to bring in a resolution in the Assembly at its session in March, 1957, vesting full powers in the Chief Councillor as in the case of Chief Ministers of the States. Mr. E. Goubert is at present the Chief Councillor and leader of the Congress Party.

Punjab

Cabinet of Twenty

Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon, Chief Minister of Punjab, on October 31 announced a ten-member Cabinet (seven Ministers and three Deputy Ministers,) for the integrated State of Punjab. In the new Ministry Sardar Kairon had retained all the members of the previous Punjab Cabinet, except the Local Self-Government Minister, Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa, (brought in later as Education Minister) and two Deputy Ministers, Chaudhri Amar Singh and Mr. Balwantrai Tayal. From PEPSU he had inculded only the Chief Minister, Mr. Brishbhan.

On November 9, Mr. Kairon announced the appointment of five more Ministers and four more Deputy Ministers, raising the strength of the Ministry to 20. Explaining why he had selected such a big team, the Chief Minister said he was anxious that normal administration should not suffer during the next few months when Ministers must necessarily devote much of their time to elections and other party matters. Another reason he gave was his desire to train the second line of political leaders.

The following constitute the members of the Punjab Cabinet :— Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon (General Administration, Transport, Publicity, Anti-Corruption, Social Welfare and Local Government), Mr. Brish Bhan (Planning, Justice, Community Projects and Chandigarh Capital Project), Chow. Sher Singh (Irrigation and Power), Pandit Mohan Lal (Finance Industries, Food and Civil Supplies), Mr. Mool Chand Jain (P. W. D., Excise and Taxation), Mr. Gurbanta Singh (Agriculture, Forests, Scheduled Caste), Mr. Amarnath Vidyalankar (Labour, Medical Health and Labour Co-operatives), Sardar Gurbachan Singh (Education), Sardar Darbara Singh (Consolidation, Co-operatives and Political Spheres), Sardar Harcharan Singh (Revenue and Panchayats), Mr. Probodh Chandra (Relief and Rehabilitation and Jails), and Sardar Prem Singh Prem (Housing, Printing, Stationery, Language and Sports).

Supersession Threat To Simla Committee

Pandit Hariram, President of the Simla Municipal Committee, on November 22 received a letter from the Punjab Government asking for the Committee's views on the letter sent by Sardar Waryam Singh, former Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Simla, recommending to the State Government to take over the administration of the Committee in view of the importance of the town. The Deputy Commissioner's recom-

mendation followed allegations of irregularities made by the Examiner, Local Funds Accounts, and by four municipal commissioners in a resolution given notice of by them. The Deputy Commissioner had stated that the Committee was incompetent to perform its duties. The Secretary, Local Government, had asked the Municipality to forward its explanation to the Government within ten days.

Walk Out

Five Opposition members of the Simla Municipal Committee walked out from its meeting on November 28 in protest against the refusal of the President to adjourn the meeting which was convened to consider the Punjab Government's letter. The meeting was held in camera to consider the Government's letter and draft a reply.

After the Government letter had been read, Mr. S. K. Khanna, one of the members, who walked out, raised a point of order that under the by-laws a copy of the letter should have been placed on agenda and members should have been given an opportunity to inspect the letter. Since this was not done, he said, the meeting should be adjourned and copies of the letter provided to members. The President, over-ruled the point of order stating that since the Government had asked for a reply within 10 days, the meeting could not be postponed. The Opposition contended that as the notice period expired on December 3 and the next meeting could be held at 48 hours' notice, the reply could be sent in time. The remaining nine members, belonging to the Congress, discussed the letter and refuted all the 16 allegations.

Expressing concern at the attitude of the former Deputy Commissioner, the Committee regretted that the District Magistrate had not conducted an enquiry before recommending the Committee's supersession. After 4½ hours' deliberation the Committee authorised its President to send a reply to the Government.

Future of Simla

Mr. B. N. Datar, Minister in the Union Home Ministry, speaking in Simla on November 9, said that following reorganisation of States in India many former capitals had been vacated making property worth crores of rupeees a liability. It had become a great problem for the Government to utilize this property.

He said that in the interests of economy and public convenience the Central and Punjab Governments could not move their offices to Simla. In a democracy, he added, the thing that mattered most was the public interest. Stressing the urgency of developing Simla into a first-rate tourist centre, Mr. Datar said tourist traffic was at present paying 5.5 crores to the Central Government and the amount was likely to go up to Rs. 50 crores. He hoped Simla, with its glorious past spread over two centuries, would not lag behind in the speedy developing of tourist resorts.

He assured the municipality of his help in getting aid from the Central and Punjab Governments, and promised to take up the matter with the authorities for compensation to the Simla Municipality for the damage caused to its roads by vehicles of the Western Command which did not pay any local taxes.

Removed For Rudeness To Executive Officer

The Punjab Government's orders removing two members of Rewari Municipal Committee on grounds of flagrant misuse of powers, have been upheld by the Punjab High Court. One of the charges against Mr. Kailash Chandar (Jana Sangh) was that he was rude to the Executive Officer and indulged in disorderly behaviour at the meetings. His plea was that the allegation against him did not constitute a flagrant misuse of power and that the action against him was taken because he was a Jana Sangh worker.

Removed For Disqualification Incurred 24 Years Ago

Through a writ petition an order of the PEPSU Government on the eve of its merger with the Punjab removing Mr. Dhansi Ram, Vice-President of the Narnaul Municipal Committee, from membership of the Committee and also disqualifying him from contesting elections for five years was challenged in the Punjab High Court

on November 8. It was alleged that the action against the petitioner was taken on the ground that he was convicted in a criminal case 24 years ago. The petitioner contended that the notification removing him was malafide and that it was issued on October 28 without properly examining the scope of Section 16 of the Punjab Municipal Act and that it was issued at the instance of the Executive Officer against whom the petitioner had made certain allegations. A division bench admitted the petition and issued notice to the State.

Elections Challenged

Elections to the Phagwara Municipal Committee in Kapurthala district, held in October, were challenged as wholly illegal and ineffective before a Division Bench of the Punjab High Court on November 19, through two writ petitions by two municipal voters. Their lordships admitted the petitions and issued notice to Punjab State and the Deputy Commissioner, Kapurthala. It was prayed that the elections be set aside and directions for new elections be issued on the grounds that there had been non-compliance of the Municipal Election Rules and elections were held after the expiry of more than 180 days from the date of publication of the primary rolls which, according to the petitioners, were against the mandatory provisions of the rules.

Jullundur Cantonment Board's Deficit Budget

The Jullundur Cantonment Board's budget for the next financial year shows a deficit of Rs. 9,772, the estimated income and expenditure being Rs. 6,21,027 and Rs. 6,30,799. The main sources of income are: Octroi Rs. 2,20,000, house tax Rs. 55,000 ; cycle tax Rs. 6,000, water tax Rs. 14,000 and night soil Rs. 20,000.

Local Bodies Enquiry Committee

Far-reaching changes in the Punjab's outmoded system of municipal administration are being recommended by the high-power Local Bodies Inquiry Committee appointed last year. The Committee, among whose members are three senior Cabinet Ministers (the State Finance Minister, Mr. Mohan Lal ; the Irrigation Minister, Chaudhri Sher Singh ; and the Education Minister Sardar Gurbachan Singh Bajwa. Sardar Bajwa held the Local Self-Government portfolio when the Committee was formed) met in Chandigarh in the last week of November to sign its final report. Before reaching its voluminous conclusions it undertook an extensive tour of the country to study the different systems of municipal administration.

The Committee, it is understood, has favoured drastic changes in the Punjab Municipal Act which was passed 45 years ago and which is still applicable to the Punjab, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh.

Greater Powers For Local Bodies

The general trend of the Committee's findings is towards the grant of greater powers to municipal bodies and restricting the scope of Government intervention in their day-to-day functioning. The need has also been stressed for the creation of a State organisation to assist municipal committees in the execution of works, involving technical knowledge and a local self-Government institute to train workers.

A somewhat allied recommendation is that municipal employees be ensured security of service. The Committee favours the establishment of a separate cadre of municipal administrators with a comprehensive set of service rules.

Besides suggesting wider powers for President and Vice-Presidents of local bodies, the Committee has come to the conclusion that the tenure of their office should be raised by a year.

Instead of municipal bodies working through Deputy Commissioners and Divisional Commissioners as at present, their functioning, it is felt, should be regulated by a separate State Directorate for local bodies. Such directorates already exist for panchayats and co-operative societies. Members of the Inquiry Committee have suggested that a State Board be set up to ensure greater co-ordination between municipal bodies and the various Government agencies.

Rajasthan

New Cabinet

On November 1, Mr. Gurumukh Nihal Singh was sworn is as the first Governor of Rajasthan.

The following Ministers were also sworn in:—Mohanlal Sukhadia (Chief Minister), Ram Kishore Vyas, Bhogilal Pandey, Brij Sunder Sharma, Amritlal Yadav, Ram Nivas Mirdha, Damodarlal Vyas, Badriprasad Gupta, Ramchandra Chaudhry, and Brij Mohan Sharma.

The following were sworn in as Deputy Ministers: Mr. Kamla Beniwal, Sampat Ram, Allimuddin and Khet Singh.

The Cabinet included all the Ministers of the former Rajastan State, and Mr. Brijmohan Sharma, Minister in former Ajmer State.

A new Minister, Mr. Ramkaram Joshi, was sworn in on November 2, raising the strength of the Rajasthan Cabinet to 11.

Tripura

Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee for Tripura will consist of all members of Parliament representing Tripura, the Chief Commissioner of Tripura and members of the Council of Advisers associated with the Chief Commissioner of Tripura. Mr. K. P. Bhargava, who was Chief Commissioner of Bhopal, which has now been merged in the Madhya Pradesh State, has been appointed Administrator of Tripura with the designation of Chief Commissioner.

Uttar Pradesh

Three Municipal Boards Superseded

Three more elected Municipal Boards in the State have been superseded by the Government. The Municipal Boards of Hamirpur and Bulandshahr have been superseded for a period of one year with effect from December 1, 1956. The District Magistrates concerned have been appointed administrators of the two Boards.

Hamirpur

The gazette notifications, issued on November 30 said that there had been steady deterioration in the administration of the two boards and complaints of serious nature had been received by the Government which revealed that the Boards had persistently made defaults in the performance of statutory duties. The Hamirpur Municipal Board had failed to maintain properly its roads and streets, sanitation and lighting arrangements, to collect the huge arrears of taxes which had accumulated in the absence of adequate efforts on its part to make collections, to submit its Annual Administration Report for 1954-55 so far inspite of repeated reminders and to submit its budget for 1956-57 to the authority concerned. The Hamirpur Municipal Board in its explanation to the charges set-forth by the Government had also stated that there was no objection to its supersession.

Bulandshahr

In regard to the Bulandshahr Municipal Board it was stated that the Board had been functioning inefficiently in the discharge of its primary duties and had grossly mismanaged its finances and failed to carry out its financial and other statutory obligations by incurring expenditure beyond its means and also neglecting the collections of its dues and sacrificing the larger interests of the public. The Board had also failed to make proper sanitary arrangements in the city and to effectively enforce its bye-laws regulating the sale of meat and sweet-meats, which had deleterious effect upon the health and sanitation of the town. The Board had also failed to construct and properly maintain the roads of the town and had made no earnest efforts even to utilize the financial assistance extended to it by the Government for the improvement of its roads. It had not only failed to remove numerous undesirable obstruction in the streets and public places of the town but also appeared to have wilfully acquiesed in letting these obstructions continue. It had also failed to enforce its bye-laws for the regulation of buildings.

Gola Gokaran Nath

By a notification on December 5, the U. P. Government announced the supersession of the third Municipal Board in the State, namely, Gola Gokaran Nath, for a period of one year with effect from December 6, 1956. The District Magistrate of Kheri has been appointed to perform the

powers and duties of the Board so long as the supersession of the Board lasts.

Giving reasons for the supersession, the State Government said there had deterioration in the administration of the Municipal Board, Gola Gokaran Nath, several complaints of serious nature had been received by the Government, which revealed that the Board had persistently made defaults in the performance of its statutory duties. The notification further said that the Board had been dealing with matters concerning the public utilities in an extremely negligent manner and had failed to discharge its obligations in the various spheres of civic life of the town. The Board had persistently failed in its duty to ensure a steady and sufficient supply of pure and wholesome water to the public of the town by not caring for the reorganisation repairs and proper upkeep of its Water Works despite the repeated advice of Chief Engineer, Local Self-Government Engineering Department, and the District Magistrate, Kheri; and notwithstanding the imminent danger of a total breakdown of the Water Works, following which epidemics were likely to break out endangering public health, the Board even refused to accept assistance offered by the Government by way of a loan for reorganisation of the Water Works and had refused to impose water tax or to raise sufficient funds for the proper upkeep and maintenance of the said Works. It had failed to construct and maintain the roads of the town and made no earnest efforts to utilise the finanancial assistance extended to it by the Government for the improvement of its roads within the stipulated time. It had failed to make proper sanitary arrangements in the city. It had also failed to pass its budgets for the year 1955-56 and 1956-57 in time, and it also failed to take any steps towards the introduction of compulsory primary education within its limits.

Five Year Plan For Kanpur

A Five-Year Plan for Kanpur was considered at a meeting of the city's legislators, convened by the Civic Administrator, Mr. M. A. Qureshi, I. C.S. The Kanpur Civic Administration is giving top priority to finalising the plan so that "this city of slums and filth" is reshaped to justify its title as the Manchester of Northern India.

According to a 30-point tentative plan now awaiting final touches the Civic Administration proposes to take up in order of priority the slum clearance from the heart of the city, the removal of roadside encroachments, the provision of footpaths and wider, entirely pucca, roads, the expeditious removel of rubbish, nightly street cleaning and mechanised sanitation operations, more public urinals and lavatories, bathrooms and labour hostels, a

Mr. M. A. Qureshi, *I. C. S.,*
Kanpur's Civic Administrator

more copious water supply at sufficient pressure, the replacement of old water mains in the heart of the city, more Harijan colonies for Board employees in all localities, more dispensaries, maternity and child welfare centres, more buildings for Municipal Board primary and basic schools, the redevelopment of the Subzi Mandi and more parks, libraries and reading rooms, the development of the K. E. M. Hall as a Civic Centre for a library and reading room and cultural activity, an open-air theatre in the big park of the city, a Corporation building in the water works compound, better street lighting through middle-of-the-road posts, a more efficient and cheaper bus service and the elimination of the city's industrial smoke nuisance are also contemplated. The plan also proposes the development of a zoological and botanical garden in Nanarao Park and of a boating club in Allen Forest.

Local Bodies' Power to Levy Toll

The Allahabad High Court held on Nov. 12 that the local bodies were empowered to levy toll as a considration for rendering service but it did not follow that there should be a service rendered by the local bodies on every vehicle before it could impose a tax on the vehicle.

This ruling was given by Mr. Justice Mehrotra on a writ petition filed by the Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co., Bombay, against the levy of toll on the goods brought into its sister concern at Ghaziabad in U. P.

The petitioner submitted that commodities like vegetable oil were supplied to its factory at Ghaziabad and these commodities were brought into the factory by railway wagons over an assisted railway siding within the premises of the factory.

In July, 1954, the Municipal Board of Ghaziabad served a notice on the factory that the goods entering through the railway siding in the factory were liable to payment of toll. Thereafter the Municipal Board filed complaints against the petitioner for violation of the municipal rules.

The petitioner argued that the Municipal Board did not maintain or contribute to the maintenance or render any service in respect of the assisted railway siding and was therefore not entitled to levy any toll. It was further contended that at no stage had the railway wagons which brought goods to use municipal bridge or road and no service was rendered by the Board in respect of these wagons.

No Toll From Owner of Goods

His lordship observed that the petitioner was not entitled to a mandamus directing the opposite parties not to levy any toll upon the railway wagons entering the municipal precincts but it was entitled to a relief in the nature of prohibition restraining the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ghaziabad, from proceeding further with the criminal cases and from realizing the toll from the petitioner under Rule 10 (a) of the Municipal Board which in his lordship's opinion was *ultra vires*, as it went beyond the scope of Section 153 of the Municipalities Act. This rule laid down that the toll imposed on vehicles might be recovered from the owners of goods carried in them.

No Tax on Typewriters and Sewing Machines

The Allahbad High Court on November 14 held that sewing machines and typewriters were exempt from payment of octroi duty under Para 132, Sub-Section 17 of the U. P. Municipal Accounts Code and the Municipal Board was not entitled to realize such an octroi. The ruling was given by Mr. Justice Mehrotra while dismissing a writ petition filed by the Municipal Board of Allahabad against the order of the Additional Commissioner, debarring the Board from imposing octroi duty on sewing machines and directing the Board to refund the octroi already realized by it. His lordship did not accept the contention of the Board that all machines worked by manual power were not exempt from octroi, but only those which could be proved to be for industrial or educational use. His lordship said octroi was payable when goods entered municipal limits and therefore, the imposition of octroi could not depend upon the ultimate use of the goods.

No Tax on Salaries

The Munsif of Orai has decreed the suit of certain Government servants, brought against the Municipal Board of Orai, holding that the tax purely on salaries is not a tax under Clause 9 of Section 128 of the Municipalities Act and is, therefore, illegal. The municipal Board of Orai has been restrained by a permanent injunction from realizing the circumstances and property tax from the petitioners on the basis of their salaries.

Allahabad's New Administrator

Mr. Lal Ratnaker Singh has been appointed Administrator of Allahabad Municipal Board in place of Mr. S.G. Bose Mullick, who has gone to the Union Health Ministry.

Rishikesh No-Confidence

Rishikesh Municipal Board at its meeting on October 21 passed a motion of no-confidence by 8 votes to 5 against its President,

Mr. Hiralal Agarwal (Congress). The motion was tabled by 9 Jana Sangh members.

No-Confidence in Hapur President

Hapur Municipal Board, at a special meeting on November 7 passed a motion of no-confidence in its Chairman, Mr. Tara Chand Modi. Eighteen members out of a Board of 25 voted in favour of the motion. Earlier, Mr. Modi submitted an application to the presiding officer to adjourn the meeting which was disallowed on the ground that there was no provision of law to prevent the holding of the meeting. He then walked out of the meeting. Five other members then submitted an application that as the meeting was "not validly convened," no discussion of the no-confidence motion should be allowed. The presiding officer disallowed the application. Two members than walked out of the House.

Writ Petition Admitted

Mr. Justice Mehrotra of the Allahabad High Court on February 16 admitted the writ petition of Mr. Tarachand Modi, President of the Hapur Municipal Board, against the District Magistrate, the Additional District Magistrate, Meerut, the State of U. P. and 19 members of the Board who had voted and passed a motion of no-confidence against him.

Mussoorie No-Confidence Move Thwrted

Mr. Justice Mehrotra of the Allahabad High Court on November 28 admitted a writ petition filed by the President of the City Board, Mussoorie, challenging the power of the District Magistrate to convene a meeting of the Board on December 9 to discuss a no-confidence motion tabled against the petitioner. His lordship issued an interim order staying the holding of the meeting. The petitioner, Mr. Ram Krishna Varma, submitted that he was elected President of the Board in the general election held in October 1953. Two of the nominated members had now sponsored a motion of no-confidence against him. Challenging the validity of the meeting to discuss the no-confidence motion, he argued that the nominated members had no *locus standi* and it was not valid as contemplated under Section 87-A of the U. P. Municipalities Act.

Moghal Sarai Municipality

Uttar Pradesh Government have decided to declare the Notified Area Committee of Moghal Sarai in the district of Varanasi to be a Municipality.

Etawah Board President

Mr. Girja Shanker Sharma (Congress) has been elected President of Etawah Municipal Board.

Municipal President's Suspension Set Aside

The Allahabad High Court on November 22 set aside an order of the State Government suspendig Mr. Sarda Ballabh Singh from the office of the President of the Hardoi Municipal Board.

Mr. Justice, V. D. Bhargava remarked that the power exercised by the State Government under Section 48 of the Municipalities Act was a gross abuse of the power given under that section and from the narration of the facts it was clear that this order of Government was not *bonafide* one. The petitioner was entitled to his costs.

The petitioner belonged to the Jan Sangh Party and on that ticket was elected as President of the above Board defeating a Congress candidate by an overwhelming majority. According to the petitioner the State Goverment did not like his election as President of the Board and attempts were made to remove him from the office.

At first, the petitioner said, a motion of no confidence was moved against him but it was lost. Thereafter, the petitioner stated, the State Government wanted to somehow remove him and under Section 48 served a notice on him asking for explanation to show cause within two weeks of receipt of the order as to why he should not be removed from the office. Along with the order three charges including the charges of gross misconduct were sent to the petitioner.

His Lordship said that all the three charges did not amount to even misconduct much less a gross misconduct, and it would not be every misconduct for which a President could be removed.

West Bengal

New Governor

Miss Padmaja Naidu was sworn in on November 3 as Governor of West Bengal.

Miss Padmaja Naidu,
Governor of West Bengal

Civic Address To Ethiopian Emperor

Calcutta Municipal Corporation accorded a civic reception to Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia on November 16. Replying to the address, the Emperor said: "In their desire for peace and progress, India and Ethiopia have been joined wholeheartedly by the entire peoples of Asia and Africa—two continents whose solidarity has been firmly re-established as a force of world importance by the historic conference of Bandung". The Emperor presented two spears and a gilted shield to the Mayor.

Corporation's Support For Egypt

Calcutta Corporation on November 23 passed a resolution according its support to the programme and policy which Prime Minister of India had adopted in the matter of "unabashed and unjust" attack on Egypt by British and French Imperialist Governments. The Opposition Councillor Dr. K. P. Ghosh, who moved the resolution, characterised the attack on Egypt as a severe blow to the independent and democratic countries of Asia and Africa. At the request of the Mayor, Mr. Satish Chandra Ghosh, the mover dropped that part of the resolution which said that India should come out of the Commonwealth.

Corporation Tube-Well Scandal

The Enforcement Branch of Calcutta Police was reported to have completed its investigations into what has come to be known as the Calcutta Corporation's Tube-well Scandal. Among those questioned were Corporation's Assistant Secretary, a former Deputy Executive Engineer of Water Works Department, and other employees of the Corporation. It is alleged that a contractor in conspiracy with certain Corporation employees and with the connivance of certain Councillors had succeeded in manipulating tube-wells contracts and in cheating the Corporation of large sums of money.

Walk-Out Over Assessor's Appointment

The Calcutta Corporation on November 28 appointed by a majority Mr. Pannalal Mitra an Assessor on Calcutta Improvement Trust Tribunal for two years. The Opposition Councillors characterising the appointment to be political and alleging that Mr, Mitra did not have the requisite qualifications for the post which carries a remuneration of over Rs. 1,000 and which had been advertised, staged a walk-out.

Nabadwip Municipality Superseded

West Bengal Government superseded Nabadwip Municipality in October, 1956 following breakdown of municipal services as a result of the floods. The Government were of the opinion that the only effective and quickest means of restoring the services was for Government to take up the municipal administration in their own hands.

Electricity Nationalisation Election Issue

Nationalisation of Berhampore Electric Supply Company had become the main issue in the municipal election campaign of the United Citizens' Council of Berhampore. The Berhampore Electric Supply Company, under private management, purchases 1,30,000 units of electric energy from the Government grid per month and sells them to local consumers at a higher rate.

Civic Affairs In Neighbouring Countries

Burma

Tilak Memorial In Mandalay

Mr. A. K. Chanda, the Depty Minister for External Affairs, informed the Lok Sabha on November 27 that the construction of a library-cum-lecture hall in the Mandalay Prison in Burma as a memorial to Lokmanaya Tilak would be taken up as soon as the formal approval of the Government of Burma was received. The Deputy Minister said in the Preliminary discussions the Government of India had with the Government of Burma, the latter had agreed to the construction of a memorial. The Government of India had sanctioned Rs. 25,300 for the purpose. The Indian community in Burma had also raised some money.

Ceylon

Colombo Municipal Elections

Sir John Kotlewala's United National Party, which was thrown out of power in the Parliamentary elections in April, won a decisive victory in the elections to the 31-member Colombo Municipal Council on December 15. The party won 18 of the 28 seats, it contested, improving upon its strength of 16 in the previous Council.

The ruling party of Ceylon, the Mahajana Ek Sath Peramuna; or the People's United Front, making its debut into urban elections, put up an equal number of candidates as the United National Party, but won only five seats. The Trotskyite Nava Lanka Sama Samaj Party, which had 20 candidates in the field, won three seats. Its leader, Dr. N. M. Perera, who was formarly Mayor of Colombo, lost to his Mahajana Ek Sath Peramuna rival by a margin of over 700 votes.

Of the remaining five seats, two went to the Communist Party which had 19 nominees in the field and three to Independets of whom one is known to have been supported by the United National Party.

According to an earlier report rift in the governing party (People's United Front) was feared when the Sri Lanka Freedom Party founded by Mr. Bandaranaike on November 26 had issued its own manifesto for elections to the Colombo Municipal Council.

The People's United Front, which was formed before the General Election early this year, consisted of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, the Viplavakari (Revolutionary) Lanka Sama Samaj Party led by Mr. Philip Gunawardene, now Minister for Agriculture and Food; the Bhasha Peramuna led by Mr. Dahanayake, now Minister of Education; and Independents. The Bhasha Peramuna was dissolved immediately after the election and Mr. Dahanayake joined the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. The three independants returned in the election also joined the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. Five from the Viplavakari Lanka Sama Samaj Party, however, retained their identity and refused to join the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. During the last five months four more members have joind the Sri Lanka Freedom Party bringing its strength in the 101-member House of Representatives to 50. Of the 14 Cabinet Minister, two—the Food Minister, Mr. Gunawardena, and the Industries Minister, Mr. William de Silva—are from the Viplavakari Lanka Sama Samaj Party.

Revival of Ayurveda

The Governor-General of Ceylon, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, entertained Pandit Shiv Sharma, leading Ayurvedic physician of India, on November 7. Pandit Sharma was visiting Ceylon on the invitation of the Ceylonese Government to serve on a committee appointed to advise it on Ayurvedic reforms.

China

Tibetan Leaders' Visit

Dalai Lama and Panchen Lama on their first visit to India arrived in New Delhi on November 25.

The ability of the two Tibetan leaders to make a tour of India is regarded as a demonstration by the Government of China of political trust in the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama about which there has been speculation in the past. The visit is also indicative of the

China's trust in India—both in terms of politics and security.

In China the Dalai Lama is Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress and the Panchen Lama is Vice-Chairman of the People's Consultative Congress. Both positions represent a high status in new China's formal hierarchy.

Progress of Literacy

A 12 year programme to wipe out illiteracy in Tibet has been adopted by the Chinese Government. In Tibet there was not a single school before its integration with the mainland of China in 1950. The first primary school was set up in 1952 in Lhasa by the Chinese Government. Forty schools have now been set up. A secondary school was opend in October this year. During the next 5 years it is proposed to set up 500 schools. A law has been framed providing for the use of Tibetan language as the medium of instruction in all schools.

Indonesia

Army Coup d'etat Foiled

The Government party paper *Merdeka* reported on November 15 that a coup d'etat plotted by some Indonesian Army officers and backed by "a group of political leaders" had failed when preventive action was taken against the officers involved. The paper, which supports the Nationalist Party of Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, the Prime Minister, who was away in India attending the Colombo powers' Conference, said the plotters had aimed to overthrow the Government and the Army, Navy and Air Force Commands which opposed them, "subdue" President Soekarno and "change the ideology of the State". The plot was due to have been staged last August, the paper added.

Its story followed an announcement by the Army that two senior officers—Colonel Sapari and Colonel Sukanda Bratamnggla—had received disciplinary punishment for "violating military laws". The whereabouts of a third officer, Colonel Zulkifli Lubis, who faced a similar charge, were not known.

Forein Minister's Arrest Recalled

On the day named by the paper for the coup Major-General Abdul Nasution, the Army's Chief of Staff, countermanded an order issued by the Military Commander of West Java for the arrest of Mr. Abdulgani, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, as he was about to leave for the Suez Canal conference. The paper said it had been rumoured that a new effort to stage a coup would be made on November 20, but General Nasution was "already prepared for this eventuality".

Situation "Critical"

Jakarta's Military Commander, Major Djuhro, said on November 17 that the Army situation was "critical" following the house arrest of the two senior Indonesian Army officers. The Chiefs of staff of the Army, Navy and Air Force had called on members of the Armed Forces to "abide strictly by military discipline in facing the present situation". All members of the Seventh Infantry Regiment stationed in Jakarta had been recalled to barracks to be prepared for any eventuality.

Plot To Overthrow Government

Indonesian army headquarters announced on November 19 that a cavalry major and a captain of the Training and Education Department had been "relieved of their duties" in connection with an alleged plot to overthrow the Government. An army spokesman said a third officer, Col. Zulkifli Lubis, the former Deputy Chief of Staff, had been "disciplined" but had disappeared. Army, Navy, Air Force and police units were confined to their quarters during the week-end "to be prepared for any eventuality" following protest against the arrest last week of two senior officers alleged to have been involved in the treason plot.

Prime Minister's Return

Dr. Ali Sastroamidjojo, Prime Minister, who returned from India on November 17 after attending the Colombo Powers' conference in New Delhi, discussed on November 19 developments with the First Deputy Premier, Dr. Mohammad Rum, who was the Acting Prime Minister during his absence. An army spokesman said the army question was "now in the hands of the Government".

October Truble

Indonesian Army officers had refused orders from the Army chief to arrest some of their colleagues on charges of "irregularities", in October. The arrests had been ordered by Maj.-Gen. Abdul Nasution, the Army chief, because there had lately been indications "of a small number of army officers actively taking part in activities with a definite political end", an Army spokesman said.

August Incident

The first signs of difference of opinion among senior circles of the Army appeared when Col. A. E. Kawilarang, Commander of West Java, ordered the arrest of Mr. Ruslan Abdulgani, the Foreign Minister, last August in connection with a corruption inquiry. The Colonel was publicly supported in his action by the Deputy Chief of the Army, Col. Zulkifli Lubis. The Minister was, however, exonerated.

India's New Ambassador

Mr. Gopalaswami Parthasarathi, at present chairman of the International Comission for Supervision and Control in Viet Nam, has been appointed as Ambassador of India to Indonesia in succession to Mr. B. F. H. B. Tyabji. He will assume charge of his new post about the middle of January next year.

Indonesian Ambassador in India

General Abdul Kadir has been appointed as Ambassador of Indonesia to India.

Israel

Haifa Underground Railway

The underground railway, which is being built in Haifa by a French engineering firm for the Haifa Municipality, will not be run by the Municipality, but will be handed over to a commercial company. Part of the capital will be provided by the sale of shares in the open market and part will be held by the Municipality, to ensure some measure of control over prices and services. The railway will cost some 4 million dollars, and is expected to be ready by the end of 1958.

The Municipality has also under consideration the building of an overhead line from the workers' housing area to industrial area north of the town where they work.

Italy

Cats of Rome

Italian stray cats were one of the main items on the agenda of the latest International Conference for the protection of animals held in France. Many of the speakers seemed particularly anxious to know all about Roman stray cats who haunt the remains of the great buildings of the ancient city of Caesars. A Dutch lady had recently referred to "the thousands of unhappy felines starving in the streets of the Eternal City". The Italian delegate to the Conference spoke out in Rome's defence: "We love our Roman cats, and the very fact that so many of them are to be seen in our streets affords conclusive proof that we look after them". As a matter of fact, it is true that stray cats are legion in Rome, but it is also true that they are not left to starve. A multitude of animal-lovers provides for them, probably on the ground that stray cats have been for many centuries an integral feature of the Roman scene.

Local Elections

The Communist Party suffered severe reverses in the local elections held in Italy in May. Most of the votes lost by the Communists were captured by the Socialists. A record poll for local elections of 91.1 percent of the electorate also administered a heavy defeat to the Neo-Fascist Italian social movement. The Christian Democrat Party, the country's biggest Party and backed by the Roman Catholic Church, recorded increases in most areas.

Japan

Amalgamation Of Towns & Villages

The Japanese Government has attained 98 per cent of its target to reduce the number of small towns and villages in the country by one-third from 9,622 to 3,331 under its ambitious amalgamation project launched three years ago. On September 30, 1956,

there were 3,475 towns and villages as 6,154, were eliminated in 2,200 instances.

The purpose of the amalgamation was to raise the financial and administrative efficiency of the local entities. Small towns and villages had found it financially difficult to cope with the maintenance of various public facilities.

The reforms were carried out quietly and spontaneously with the co-operation of the local inhabitants themselves whose consciousness toward autonomy has been greatly enhanced as a result.

The Law for Accelerating the Amalgamation of Cities, Towns and Villages, enacted and enforced on August 1, 1953, expired as of September 30 this year.

Reasons for Amalgamation

Japan's local public entities are divided into municipal and prefectural governments, on the one hand, and city, town and village administrations, on the other.

The present city, town and village governments were established as far back as 1888. The social, economic and cultural development of Japan in the past 60 years, however, has been remarkable, and the activities of the inhabitants of these local entities far exceeded their boundaries. It became necessary, therefore, to adjust the difference in the scope of administrative area and that of living. This was one of the reasons for the amalgamation of towns and villages.

Another reason was that small towns and villages could not adequately bear the various administrative expenses such as for personnel and public works. It was particularly difficult to secure investment expenses to improve schools, hospitals and other public facilities.

Progress Made in Amalgamation

In September, 1953 the Government mapped out an amalgamation programme to reduce the number of small towns and villages with a population of less than 8,000. It decided to cut their number by one-third (6,281) from 9,622 to 3,331.

On September 30, 1953, prior to the enforcement of the law, there were 285 cities, 1,967 towns and 7,643 villages—a total of 9,895. On September 30 this year, the number was down to 498 cities, 1,904 towns and 1,571 villages—a total of 3,973.

As a result, the average population and area of the nation's towns and villages expanded nearly three times to 15,871 persons and 104.08 square kilometers, respectively. In October, 1953 before the programme was launched the average population was 5,396 persons and the average area 34.89 square kilometers.

During these three years, approximately 90,000 assembly members and about 18,000 town and village heads, deputy mayors and treasurers voluntarily resigned their jobs for the sake of the future development of their towns and villages.

Effects of Amalgamation

The amalgamation of towns and villages marked a new era in the history of Japan's local administration. The results of the amalgamation, will not appear in a short period but will show up in the future. Thus, although it is still too early to discuss the merits and demerits of the project at this stage, a few points noticed at this time are given below.

One of the improvements is the integration of administrative and financial efficiency. For instance, the ratio of investment expenditures to total disbursements has gradually increased after amalgamation. Because of this, more construction projects of various types are being undertaken than previous days. Office efficiency has also been improved through rationalization of administrative operations, personnel, etc. This will make it possible to lower the tax burden on residents and lead to positive efforts to advance their welfare.

Secondly, the consciousness of the inhabitants toward self-government has been greatly enhanced. Local autonomy was firmly guaranteed by Japan's Constitution, but this latest experience has had the effect of further heightening the inhabitants' consciousness toward autonomy and instilled in them the positive will to build new cities, towns and villages. With their cooperation, it is believed that the principal aim of local autonomy will be sufficiently achieved and the basis of democracy in Japan strengthened.

Future Problems

There are still approximate y 1,000 towns and villages of unsuitable size which should be amalgamated. This will be under the Law for Accelerating Construction of New Cities, Towns and Villages.

The second problem is the settlement of disputes over boundaries arising from amalgamation.

Another problem is to see that the new cities, towns and villages make healthy development. Under the recent amalgamation, 2,200 new cities, towns and villages were created.

Japan's Population

According to an interim report of the census, which took place on October 1, 1955, Japan's total population is 89,269,278, showing an increase of over 6 millions, compared with the figures disclosed in the census in 1950.

Following the four countries of China, India, Soviet Russia and America, Japan ranks the fifth in the world.

The Metropolis of Tokyo has the largest population of all the prefectures in Japan, numbering 8,033,521, which is nearly 10 per cent of the total population of Japan. This figure is the peak record disclosed before and after the war, showing an increase of about 1.75 millions for these five years, compared with the figures of the 1950 census.

Next to Tokyo comes Osaka (2,547,321), Nagoya (1,336,779), Kyoto (1,204,017), Yokohama (1,143,287), and Kobe (979,290). The population of Yokohama has reached one million, so there are five cities of over one million population throughout the country. In this point, Japan ranks a top in the world with the United States where there are also five cities of over one million population, such as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detrait, and Los Angeles.

India's Ambassador

Mr. Chandra Shekhar Jha, Joint Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, since 1954, has been appointed Ambassador of India to Japan. He will assume the charge of his new post towards the middle of February, 1957. Mr. Jha joined the I. C. S. in 1939 and was posted in Bihar. He was a member of the Indian Delegation to the Asian African Conference in Bombay in 1955 and the first Suez Conference in London this year.

Mr. Jha is succeeding Mr. B. R. Sen, (elected F. A. O. President) in Tokyo.

Malaya

Drafting of Constitution

A five-nation Commonwealth commission is meeting in Rome in December to continue its work of formulating a Constitution for the Federation of Malaya. The group comprises constitutional experts of Britain, India, Australia, Pakistan and Canada and was formed in July after Britain agreed to grant independent status within the British Commonwealth to the Malayan Federation by August, 1957. Under the chairmanship of Lord Reid the group—which is independent of both Britain and Malaya—had been assigned to blueprint a constitution for a fully self-governing Malayan State within the Commonwealth.

Mr. Justice Abdul Hamid, Chief draftsman of Pakistan's constitution, is the Pakistani representative on the Commission, and Mr. B. Malik, a former Chief Justice in the Allahabad High Court, is the Indian representative on the Commission.

Mutual Defence Treaty

Final drafting of the mutual defence and assistance treaty between Malaya and Britain was held up by "phrasing of minor clauses", an authoritative Malayan Government source said in Kuala Lumpur on November 5. The main hold-up concerned the clause dealing with the primary jurisdiction over British servicemen serving in Malaya after independence. The Malayan Government wanted the right to produce servicemen before civil courts before handing them over to courts-martial. The U. K. wanted the right to try British servicemen except in cases in which civilians were concerned.

Nepal

Sixth Anniversary of Revolution

The Nepali Congress on November 10

observed the sixth anniversary of the armed revolution which it conducted in 1950 to overthrow the Rana regime. Processions were taken out in the morning to the singing of national and revolutionary songs. Addressing several meetings during the day Congress leaders said the aim of the revolution was yet to be achieved. The ruling party, the Praja Parished and many other political parties, did not participate in the observance of the day. King Mahendra, however, sent a message to the organisers.

India's Interest In Nepal

The Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Mr. A. K. Chanda, informed the Lok Sabha on November 22 that India was "kept informed by both sides throughout" the negotiations regarding the Sino-Nepalese economic aid agreement signed in October last. Mr. Chanda added that the economic aid agreement was similar to India's 1954 agreement with China. According to the Sino-Nepalese agreement, China had agreed to give a cash grant of Rs. 2 crores (Indian money) and machinery valued at Rs. 4 crores to Nepal for her five-year development plan. The replies indicated that China recognises India's special interests in Nepal.

Dr. K. I. Singh's Opposition

Dr. K. I. Singh, the head of the United Democratic Party, said in a Press Conference in New Delhi in October, that he disliked the manner in which the recent Sino-Nepalese aid agreement had been signed in Peking. The people of Nepal were not informed about the purpose of the Prime Minister's visit to China. The visit had cost the tax-payers Rs. 2 lakhs. When someone remarked that the visit brought Rs. 6 crores to Nepal (Chinese aid), Dr. Singh answered: "But do you think Rs. 6 crores is the price for Nepal".

Dr. Singh said he was not opposed to aid coming to Nepal from any country, America or China, but in the past foreign aid was misused by the men in office. Much of the U. S. aid and the aid under the Colombo Plan had gone to waste. The U. S. aid was used in destroying mosquitoes or distributing quinine pills, he said.

Dr. Singh said he was against other countries except those who already had embassies in Kathmandu, establishing their Embassies in Nepal. Dr. Singh said he welcomed Indian aid for Nepal.

General Elections

Dr. Singh said that his party wanted general elections to be held in Nepal as promised by the Government towards the end of 1957. He thought the present Government which was a nominated government, was not keen on holding the elections nor was it making any preparations in that respect. The King had warned the Ministry that the elections must be held as scheduled, he disclosed. He also said that his party did not want to abolish Kingship in Nepal, but favuored constitutional monarchy. He emphasised that it was not necessary to abolish the monarchy to establish democracy in Nepal. The King, he added, was a symbol of unity for the people of Nepal.

During his stay in New Delhi, Dr. K. I. Singh met the Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and the Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, as also the President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

Preparations For General Election

There will be 100 constituencies in Nepal for its first general election scheduled for October next year, said a Government Press Note issued in Kathmandu on May 17. The list of the constituencies as prepared by the Election Commission was being sent out to each district for circulation among the people. This was the first step the Government had taken in the implementation of its programme to hold the general election before the data set by King Mahendra.

Constitutional Monarchy

General Secretary of the ruling Praja Parishad, told a Press conference in Kathmandu on May 26 that the party stood for limiting the powers of the Nepalese King. "Our party envisages a constitutional monarch with limited powers," he said.

Non-Cooperation Threat

Mr. Ganesh Man Singh, charging the Government with failure in its domestic

affairs, particularly in respect of the maintenance of law and order, said in Kathmandu on October 6 that the Nepali Congress will launch a country-wide non-cooperation movement against the Government after the conclusion of the fourth World Buddhist Congress. The Nepali Congress withdrew its support to the Government in September. Administration of law and order in the country, he said, was far worse now than during the direct rule by the King eight months ago.

Supreme Court Set Up

A Supreme Court with enlarged powers has been set up in Nepal and the Nepalese High Court has been abolished. Mr. Anuridh Prasad Singh (Independent), Law Minister, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Opera In Kathmandu

The Nepal Government proposes to set up an opera in Kathmandu. Nepal's Prime Minister, Mr. Tanka Prasad Acharya, said on November 12 that during his recent visit to China, he had been greatly impressed by the fact that there were more operas then cinema threatres there, and that he had decided on setting up a national opera in Nepal. The Nepal Government would spend about Rs. 5 lakhs in starting a national opera in Kathmandu.

Buddhist Congress

The fourth world Buddhist Congress was opened in Kathmandu on November 15 by King Mahendra.

The Congress by a resolution on November 18, officially recognised Lumbini in the foothills of Nepal as the birthplace of Lord Buddha. The Congress also accepted Thailand's invitation to hold the fifth Buddhist Congress in that country.

Pakistan

Karachi Corporation Superseded

The Chief Commissioner of Karachi, Mr. N. M. Khan, on December 14 dissolved the two-year-old Karachi Municipal Corporation for "nepotism, mal-administration and corruption" and appointed a 15-member Advisory Council to look after the administration of the city. A Press Note, issued on the occasion, said since the appointment of the Karachi Municipal Corporation in 1954, many complaints of "mal-administration, nepotism and corruption" had been received and the Corporation had been asked to explain as to why action should not be taken against it in July last. The reply from the Corporation was not satisfactory and hence dissolution had been ordered, the Press Note added.

Differences among the 119-member Corporation in recent days had gone up to law courts and last month the Mayor, Mr. Siddiqi Wahab, had secured a writ from the West Pakistan High Court against the passage of a no-confidence against him by a section of the Corporation Council in his absence in October.

The present Karachi Municipal Corporation, it may be recalled, in April last had also rajected by 27 votes to 15 a resolution that a reception be accorded to President Iskandar Mirza in honour of his election as the President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Changing Names

Mr. N. M. Khan, Chief Commissioner of Karachi, in an order issued in October, said that Shivaji Park in Karachi will hereafter be called Aurangzeb Park. The changing of names of public places in Karachi started some time ago with Ram Baug being renamed Aram Baug. Names of Gandhi Gardens, Motilal Nehru Road and C. R. Das Road will also be changed shortly, it was learnt.

Indo-Pakistan Boundaries

Mr. A. K. Chanda informed the Lok Sabha on November 12 that the demarcation of the Indo-Pakistan boundaries in the west will cost the Government of India Rs. 8,35,000. It was roughly estimated that the demarcation will take about 1½ years.

Passenger Traffic To Lahore

Passenger traffic to and from Lahore had shown 15 percent increase since January this year, Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan informed the Lok Sabha on November 23. He added that the quastion of opening the Ferozepore

(India)—Kasur (Pakistan) route was under correspondence with the Pakistan Government.

Singapore

Constitutional Talks In February

Mr. Lim Yew Hock, Singapore's Chief Minister, speaking in the State Legislative Assembly on November 6, expressed the hope that the new Constitution for Singapore would come into being in August next year along with fresh election, if the Merdeka (independence) talks were successful. The Merdeka talks with the British Colonial Office are scheduled to take place in London in February next. Mr. Lim said he would be visiting London in the middle of December to fix the agenda for the talks. Should the talks fail, the purpose for which his Government accepted office would have come to an end, he added.

Replying to a question by the former Chief Minister, Mr. David Marshal, Mr. Lim stated that the next elections after freedom would be full and not partial, thus setting at rest all doubts that the elections might be restricted only to additional seats so that the present members of the Government could continue in office undisturbed.

Earlier, defending the Government's action against subversive elements during the recent riots, the Chief Minister said that damage to life and property was quite small in spite of the violence and the extent of rioting.

When the constitutional talks in London in April last foundered Mr. David Marshall risigned and was succeeded by Mr. Lim Yew Hock as Chief Minister. The latter has taken resolute action against Communists and also planned Malayanisation of the services.

U. K.

White Paper On Local Government

On July 21 the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Mr. Duncan Sandys, presented to Parliament a White Paper dealing with general structure of local government in England and Wales, and, in particular with arrangements for reviewing and altering local authority areas and status. The main conclusion arrived at by the Government is that there is "no convincing case for radically reshaping the existing form of local government in England and Wales. What is needed is to overhaul it and make such improvements as are necessary to bring it up to date". The means of achieving this will be through two Local Government Commissions, one for England and one for Wales. Their main task will be to make recommendations to the Minister as regards the creation of county boroughs, their extension, any necessary alternations in country boundaries, and the organisation of local government in the conurbations.

The existing pattern of local government in England and Wales was established by the Local Government Acts of 1888 and 1894. Two separate systems were set up, one for the counties and one for county boroughs. The Act of 1888 established 61 county boroughs and 62 administrative counties (including the County of London, which is organised somewhat differently from the other counties). The Act also provided that the Local Government Board (later the Ministry of Health and now the Ministry of Housing and Local Government) could make Orders, subject to Parliamentary confirmation, conferring county borough status on non-county boroughs of not less than 50,000 inhabitants, and prescribed a similar procedure for the extension of the boundaries of county boroughs.

The question of Local Government reform has been under discussion since 1949.

U. S. A.

Mr. Dwight D. Eisenhower this November won re-election to the Presidency of the United States by a massive, overwhelming vote, but the Democrats came up with continued control of Congress.

Former Ambassador's Success

Mr. John Sherman Cooper, former Ambassador to India, has been elected to the U. S. Senate to serve out the remaning years of the term of the late Democratic Senator, Mr. Alben W. Barkley.

New Ambassador To India

Mr. Ellsworth Bunker,
U. S. Ambassador to India and Nepal.

Ellsworth Bunker, former president of the American Red Cross, has been named Ambassador to India and Nepal. He succeeds John Sherman Cooper. Mr. Bunker, 62, who has been serving as a delegate to the U.N. General Assembly, is due in India in January.

Judge Dalip Saund

Judge Dalip Saund, Indian-born Democratic Party candidate was declared elected from California and thus became the first Indian ever to be elected to the U. S. House of Representatives.

New York Mayor

The Mayor of New York, Mr. Robert F. Wagner, however, was unable. to get elected to the House.

Last Year's Municipal Elections

The Democratic Party had achieved substantial victories in the counrty-wide municipal elections held in November, 1955. Significant gains in State and local elections had given the Democrats new power in "grass roots" political organisations for the 1956 presidential campaign. The worst defeat of the Republicans in elections had came in Indiana where, in town after town, Republican Mayors were defeated in the "biggest electoral upheaval since 1930". Democratic Mayors were elected in 73 out of 105 towns and cities; Republican incumbents lost 48 of them, including large centres like Indianapolis, South Bend, and Evansville—and one of them was the Mayor of New Castle.

The Democratic tide had run so strongly in the State and Municipal elections that Republicans had some difficulty in maintaining that it would be found to have little bearing on the general election due a year later.

The defeat of Addilai Stevenson, the Democrat Presidential Candidate, is therefore obviously a personal triumph of Mr. Eisenhower and won independently of his Republican Party.

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Mrs. Indira Gandhi were guests of honour at a dinner given on December 16 by Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, Earl Warren and Mrs. Warren.

U. S. S. R.

Public Health Conference

A USSR conference of public health officials was held in Moscow in October. Maria Kovrigina, Minister of Public Health of the USSR, announced that in 1960 hospital accommodations would increase by some 360,000 beds as compared with 1955. Accommodation in nurseries will go up by more than 400,000, in sanatoria by 10 per cent and in rest-homes by thirteen per cent. During the sixth Five-Year Plan period 112,000 doctors and pharmaceutists are to be trained as against 79,000 during the previous Five-Year Plan period.

First Place In World

She claimed that the Soviet Union holds first place in the world for providing medical services to the population : there are sixteen doctors for each ten thousand residents. The mortality rate in the USSR, she claimed, was lower than the United States, Britain and France.

Malaria as an epidemic has been wiped out in the USSR. In 1955, 35,000 cases of malaria were registered throughout the country as against nine and a half million in 1934.

Viet-Nam

Communist Crisis in North Viet-Nam

Mr. Truong Chinh, Secretary-General of the ruling Communist Party in the North Viet-Nam, one of the most forceful of North Viet-Namese leaders and until now the Communist Party's chief theorist, has been relieved of his post. That the Communist Party in North Viet-Nam is shown not only by Mr. Truong's down-fall, but by the fact that the founder of the Viet-Namese Communist party himself, President Ho Chi Minh of North Viet-Nam, had to be called on to take over Mr. Truong's functions. Two other high leaders of the Communist Party have also been relieved. The Central committee of the Communist Party, announcing Mr. Truong's dismissal, said Mr. Truong had admitted "grave mistakes" in implementing reforms. These, they said, were due to his "shortcomings in leadership." A number of Communist papers have since been vigorously criticising the state of affairs where land reforms had been carried out. Communist newspaper *Thoi Moi*, giving an account of land reform in a typical village in the Red River Delta, said Communist cadres had made too many arrests and had persecuted the people a great deal. Not less than 100 peasants suspected of sabotage were arrested without proof. The newspaper said the Communist cadres had made a regular business of blackmailing the poor peasants. They threatened to have them registered as landlords unless they paid a bribe. Guy Wint, a London commentator on South-East Asian affairs, wrote this month that the instability in the North Viet-Nam had come at an awkward moment for Communism, because the southern Republic of Viet-Nam, under its President and Prime Minister, Mr. Ngo Dinh Diem, had by contrast, recently shown signs of consolidating itself. Its future seemed very much brighter than was expected, Guy Wint said. He also asked, why is the North Viet-Namese Government now turning upon its Communist cadres, why did the Government decide to jettison Mr. Truong ?

With the pressure of urgent news from the Middle East and Hungary, events in this part of the world have not received as much notice as they would have in other circumstances.

Chairman of International Commission

Mr. Triloki Nath Kaul, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Chairman of the International Commission for Supervision and Control and leader of the Indian delegation in Viet-Nam in succession to Mr. G. Parthasarathi. He will assume charge of his new appointment in February and will hold the personal rank of Ambassador.

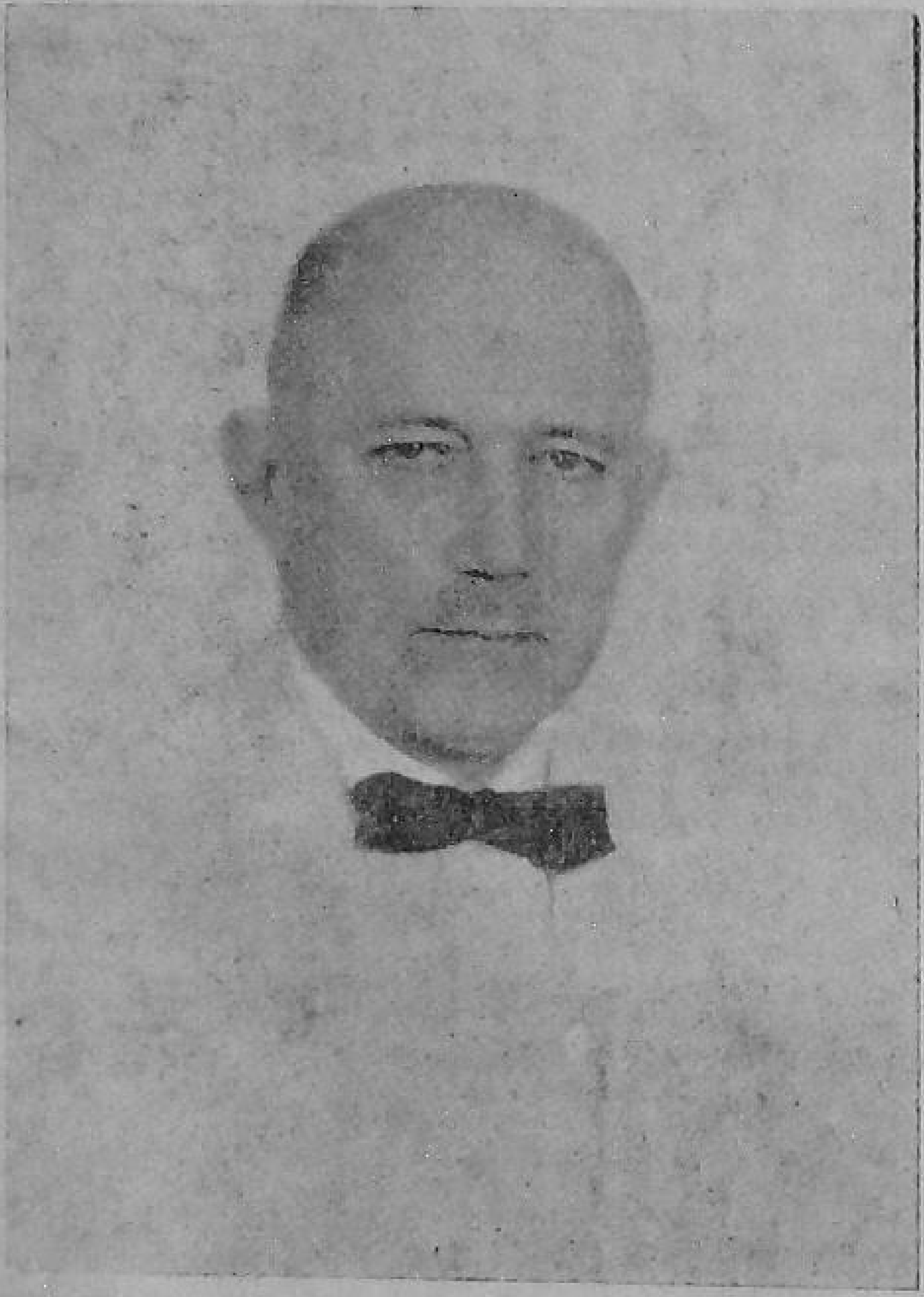
Local Self-Government in Germany

By Professor Dr. Ernst Wilhelm Meyer,

German Ambassador in India

I am proud to speak about the cities and communities of far away Germany before the members of the Delhi Public Forum being citizens of one of the oldest, greatest and most important cities of the world.

At the end of the war the German cities were almost nothing but shambles. The large city of Cologne, for instance, had fallen down from a number of 7,50,000



H. E. Dr. Ernst Wilhelm Meyer

inhabitants to a mere number of 60,000. One would have figured that about 50 years would be needed to rebuild the German cities out of their ruins.

In the main, though much remains still to be done, not more than ten years proved to be sufficient to rebuild them, let us hope, to a good future.

This is to some extent the merit of the Central Government. It is also a kind of achievement on the part of our State Governments. But mainly it is the merit of our Local Governments.

It was local initiative, local devotion, local planning, local know-how, local tradition, it was the tradition of our municipal administration which brought about this almost astonishing achievement.

Our cities are perhaps our greatest pride. Our pride is not the Federal Government, neither the State Governments. Our cities are our pride.

Among you may be many city administrators of the future. Perhaps a future Jawaharlal Nehru is among you. Therefore, please, let us—all over the world—exchange experiences, let us form and support organizations devoted to the tasks of Local Governments. Let us go abroad from Asia to Europe and from Europe to Asia in order to establish as many local contacts as possible.

What then would you see when you go to Germany? I imagine that you would witness almost the same problems with which the Delhi Municipality, with which, the Chief Minister of Delhi State and the President of the Delhi Municipal Committee Agrawala are dealing from morning to evening. These problems are, it seems to me, rather world-wide in character. The outward different appearances of the problems should not deceive us. **Basically the problems of the Municipalities, it cannot be repeated too often, are the same all over the world.**

No democratic fabric anywhere can stand the impact of the inter-play of economic and political forces not based on the solid foundation of an efficient system of Local Government.

What should, in this connection, give us much pause for thought is the fact that nothing on earth is older than our villages and our small cities. Before National Governments, before big cities emerged, these small communities, the villages had come

into existence and—had formed the human mind. They still are forming it.

Let me give you in brief the history of German Local Government.

We had flourishing cities up to about 1618 when the thirty-year war was started, by the way, a communal war, and you know what I mean, when I refer to communalism. At the end of the thirty-year war which had been conducted with utmost cruelty and utmost belief in religious self-righteousness the flowering of Self-Government of the German cities had come to an end. This then was in 1648. But less than one or two hundred years afterwards a great man emerged, regarded as the father of modern German Self-Government. He was Freiherr vom und zum Stein, a long name, but nevertheless a name worth to remember. It was in Prussia where he re-established, after the tragedy of the thirty-years' war old Local Self-Government of high rank. Since then Local Government has not vanished from German soil any more.

It was Local Government which had helped to make modern Germany a country of individual rights and individual liberties.

After World War Two

Now, right after the Second World War, Germany was divided into four zones of occupation. We had the American and the British and the French and the Russian zones of occupation. Each of the occupying powers tried to wield influence to have its own pattern used in the process of rebuilding German local government. The our once rather uniform local government became multi-coloured. We had for some time the American, the British, the French and the Russian touches. In the main, however, the original structure of German Local Government soon re-asserted itself yet—as indicated—not quite. Many foreign practices still prevail at many different places and therefore I can give you only a few major characteristics. An all-inclusive description would be impossible at this stage.

Local Govt. Based on Free Election

Local Government in Germany rests on the principle of Free Elections. The members of the City Council, men or women, are elected. Likewise the Mayor of the Community is elected, though—as a rule—not directly by the people, but by the members of the City Council. His term is for six years and if during this period of time he comes to be regarded as a good Mayor, he can be re-elected, even for a period of 12 years. The same system exists more or less in our villages where, however, we do not have salaried but honorary Mayors.

Training of Future Statesmen

Now what does Local Government mean in the political sense? I think in this regard it is a very important political factor especially because it contributes to educate our youth for public service. It makes them aware of and devoted to the public weal and not merely to their personal. materialistic profit. Moreover, they gather experience within the realm of politics, of its means, its tactics, its good and also bad characteristics. We should never forget that many great Statesmen of the world have come out of the Local Government-sphere, as, for instance, Earl Attlee in Great Britain or the famous Mayor of Lyon the great French statesman E. Herriot.

When you think of (in India) the much discussed Professor Appleby's report, you may also like to emphasize as a momentous political fact that Local Government helps the cause of decentralization, so very strongly favoured by Prof. Appleby.

Training Ground For Political Parties

But, last not least, Local Government offers an excellent training ground for the members of the Political Parties as such. This is sometimes lamented. There are people who are not happy because political parties have entered the sphere also of local government. They argue that to those politicians the party comes first and the interest of the local community only later. May be, they are right, to some extent, though I think, it is a rather awkward and narrowminded judgement.

For the political schooling of the younger party-adherents between 25 and 35 years is a most valuable and never to be underrated result.

Lesson In Co-existance

Besides, within the realm of local administration members of very different parties can come to peaceful and very active co-existance. When a road is to be built what does it matter whether the cement for the road has a Congress Party colour or the colour of the Praja Socialist Party or still another colour. After all it has to be good cement, a cament proved worthy on its own merits. So people of different political leanings learn how to co-operate inspite of the fact that they belong to different political organizations. Therefore, in my own country, objections raised regarding the participation of parties in local government have come, more and more, to an end.

A Kind of Welfare State

Another point should be stressed : Most of the German cities are, if you do not mind a word, which is used so often in these days in New Delhi, a kind of a "Welfare State". We practise in our cities a mixed economy. To be true private enterprise may still play a major fiddle. Nevertheless billions and billions of rupees have been invested by the German Municipalities in enterprises, for instance, of gas, water and electricity establishments, in buses or trams, in fire protection works, in sustaining the police force, in arranging fairs or whatever it may be. So we may truly say that Local Government offers also a meeting place for peaceful co-existence of publicly-owned and privately-owned enterprises.

Public Utilities

There are few rules which, in this regard, we have developed and which I may be permitted to mention. First we feel that such enterprises must serve the public interest and not go after profit of a semi-private character. Secondly, we feel that if the private Sector serves the interest of the community better, then the public sector should not interfere. Third, we feel, the rule should be followed that there should not be unnecessary competition between public and private economic activities within the field of Local Government.

Sources of Revenue

In this connection, the question comes up, quite naturally, about where does the money come from for all these purposes which I have briefly sketched ? It comes, I should like to answer, primarily from real-estate taxes; it comes, moreover, from taxes placed on the businessman. Either he has to pay to the local government taxes according to the capital which he has invested in this enterprise or according to the income which he derives from his enterprise. Sometimes he has to pay for both. Do you wonder, if you think of the greed of the taxing authorities of all countries ? German Local Governments have additional income from indirect taxation. They profit from taxes on dogs and on film-tickets, just as it is in Delhi. This is one of the reasons why I feel that study of these matters in different countries is particularly interesting. It enables us to better understand our worries, our own aims, our own potential remedies.

Of course the backbone of Local Government is financial autonomy. As soon as Local Governments have to live on income derived primarily from the central government or from the State government, the future of local government does not seem to be bright.

Cultural Activities

Like the Delhi Municipality our cities are very much devoted to promoting cultural affairs. This present Delhi Public Forum is, in my opinion, a rather powerful evidence for what a municipality can do for adult education in co-operation with its citizens.

Within the cultural realm it is important to mention that almost all German primary schools are being taken care of by the local Governments. Many also of our secondary schools, many of our libraries, some of our universities are municipality-owned.

Municipal Owned Theaters

In Germany we have plenty of theaters. I would not know of any city of more than 100,000 inhabitants which would not have at least one municipality owned theatre for the education of the citizens.

Many of our museums are owned by local governments as well as many of our art and music academies.

But in this context again problems come up which, I am sure, are also problems in India. Are the cities financially strong enough in order to guarantee best education for the youngsters? Personally, I have grave doubts. Youngsters are our most valuable possession. The education to be given to them cannot be good and high enough. Under the circumstances, people are inclined to ask for more and more help forthcoming from the central government and from the state governments.

On the other hand, the question is raised: Should not to some extent the local governments exercise restraint regarding cultural activities? Should they leave something to individuals? To myself—as I may say in this connection an element of great admiration is for instance the Delhi Music Society, which is run completely on a private basis and nevertheless caters to the interests of the Delhiwalas in such an excellent manner.

Real Freedom

Let me in concluding say that I think, no country can be called free which is exclusively administrated from the top down.

However, I suggest, at the same time not to let us make any mistake: Local Government cannot be strong without a strong central government. Freedom of the cities and villages is dependent, it appears, upon the freedom of the country in its entirety. Germany, because she is still partitioned is still not completely free.

Only after reunification which, I trust, will come much sooner than some cynics and negativists and eternal yesterdayers want to admit, will the German municipalities make their entire and real contribution to their own and to other people.

We thus witness the most direct contact between all spheres of human sociological life, between foreign policy and domestic policy, between policy on the top and policy within the local sphere.

Let us hope and pray that India will for ever remain free and united and that therefrom will flow the freedom also of its local governments. Let us hope and pray that all over the world local governments will prove to be triumphant rendering their indispensable service to the world-wide cause of human progress all countries including, none excluding.

(From a talk delivered on October 6, 1956, under the auspices of D. M. C. Public Forum.)

Dr. E. W. Meyer

Dr. E. W. Meyer, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in India, on completion of his five years' stay in India, is due to leave this country in January. Dr. Meyer, who will be 65 in April, is likely to revert to a teaching career in Frankfurt where as a professor of political science he made a great name for himself.

Berlin Week in Bombay

Dr. K. A. Hamid, a former Sheriff of Bombay, inaugurating the "Berlin Week" organised by the Indo-German Cultural Society in Bombay on October 16, expressed the hope that Berlin would soon become a united city, and with it Germany herself a united country. Dr. Hamid, who had spent several years in Berlin, said that anyone who had lived in that City before, would wish that it would before long again become the centre of cultural, social, economic and industrial activities in Germany.

A campaign to mòve the seat of the West German Government and Parliament wholly or partly to West Berlin, had been started in West German political circles. The influential Hamburg weekly, Die Zeit pleads that the time has come for the Federal Government to end its Bonn exiles and establish itself in the real German capital city. Eastern part of Barlin is the seat of the German Democratic Republic's Government.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

REVISION IN TIME TABLE

There will be a general revision of this Railway Time Table from 1st January, 1957, Main features of the revision will be as under :—

1. TRAINS INTRODUCED.

7 MA and 8 MA passenger trains will be reintroduced to run between Mankapur and Ayodhya Ghat.

2. TRAINS EXTENDED.

(i) 313 Up Passenger train running at present between Katihar and Lucknow Jn. will be extended to run between Jogbani and Kanpur Anwarganj replacing 558 Dn. on Katihar—Jogbani and 465 Up on Lucknow Jn.—Kanpur Central Sections.

(ii) 314 Dn. Passenger train running between Lucknow Jn. and Katihar will be extended to run between Kanpur Anwarganj and Katihar replacing 466 Dn. on Kanpur—Lucknow section.

(iii) 321 Up and 322 Dn. Prayag Passenger trains running at present between Katihar and Allahabad City will be extended to run between Jogbani and Allahabad City replacing 551 Up/554 Dn. trains on Katihar—Jogbani section.

(iv) 2 MB and 5 MB passenger trains running at present between Barauni Jn. and Mokamehghat will be extended to run between Samastipur and Mokamehghat.

3. TRAINS CURTAILED.

371 Up and 374 Dn. trains running between Allahabad City and Gonda (via Gonda—Gorakhpur loop) will run between Allahabad City and Gorakhpur only. 421 Up/418 Dn. trains will run on Gonda—Gorakhpur loop section in replacement.

4. THROUGH SERVICE CARRIAGE.

(i) The bogie third through carriage running between Palezaghat and Nirmali will be replaced by first, second and third composite carriage.

(*Continued on next page*)

(*Continued from previous page*)

(ii) One third class bogie as through service carriage will be introduced to run between Pandu and Karimganj by 511 Up/714 Dn./728 Dn. and 721 Up/711 Up/512 Dn. trains.

All trains will pick up new timings from the midnight of 31st December 1956—1st January '57 except the following :—

(i) 313 Up scheduled to leave Katihar at 21/55 hours will leave at 22/55 hours on 31/12/56 to its new timings.

(ii) 314 Dn. scheduled to leave Lucknow Jn. at 20/45 hours will leave at 22/15 hours on 31-12-56 to its new timings.

For other details, Time Table in force from 1st January, 1957 may be consulted, copies of which will shortly be available at all important stations and Book-stalls of this Railway.

Chief Operating Supdt.

PRO/T-50

KANPUR DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Applications are invited for the post of the Chief Engineer of the Kanpur Municipal Board and Development Board.

QUALIFICATIONS ESSENTIAL: (a) A degree or diploma in Civil Engineering of Recognised University (b) 15 years' experience of major Sanitary Engineering Works such as design and construction of Water Supply and Sewerage besides experience in construction of Roads and Buildings.

DESIRABLE: (a) Post-graduate degree or diploma in Civil or Sanitary Engineering. (b) Knowledge and experience of town planning and development. (c) Full membership of the Institution of Engineers, India.

AGE: Not less than 40 years and not more than 50 years.

PAY: Rs. 1500-50-1700. Conveyance allowance of Rs. 150/- p. m. and House Rent Allowance of Rs. 150/- p. m.

The post is temporary but is likely to be made permanent. Applications on prescribed form obtainable from the Executive Officer (II), Development Board, Kanpur, against a remittance of Rs. 5/- should reach the undersigned not later than January 31, 1957.

M. A. QURAISHI
Administrator.

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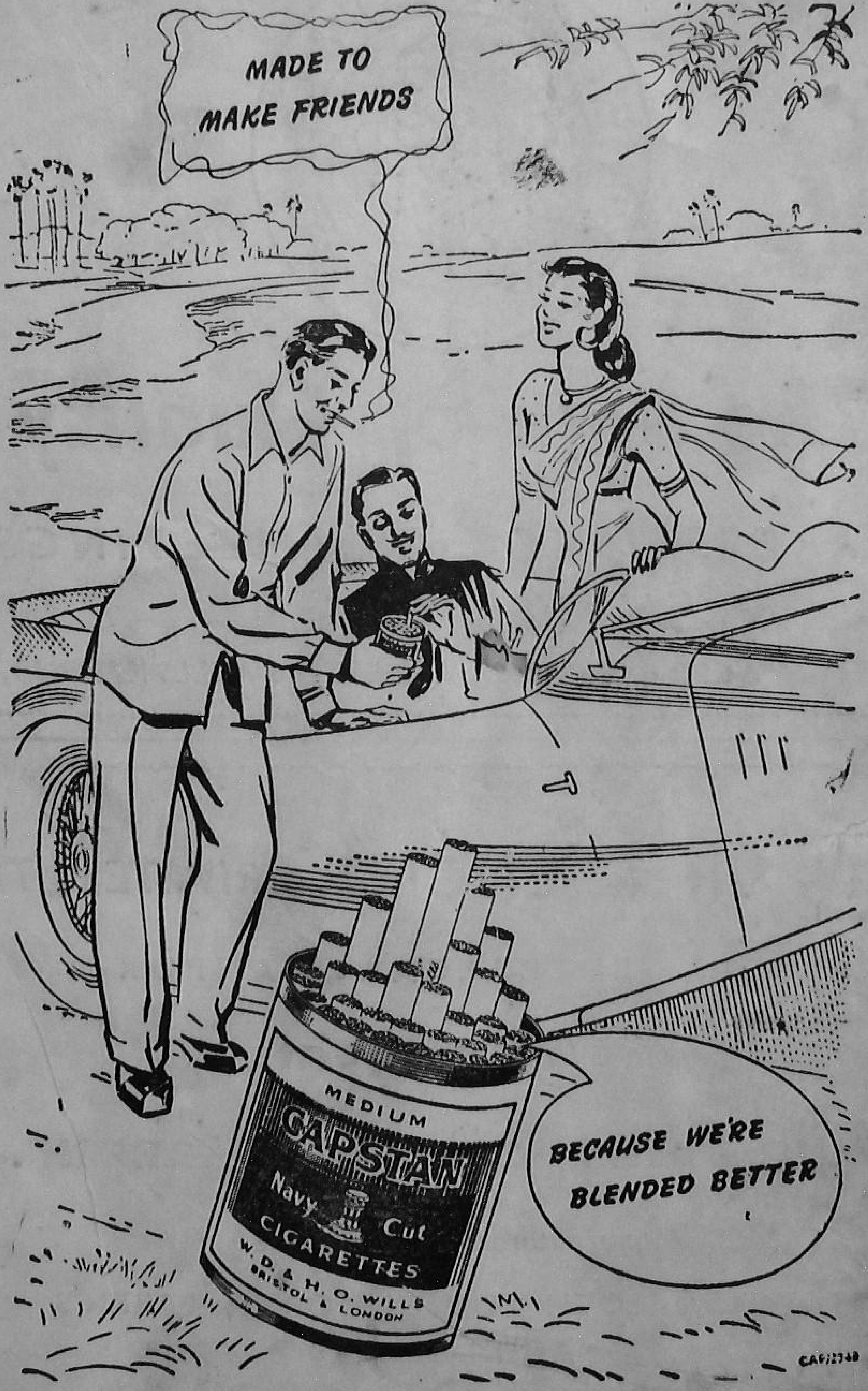
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